The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7 am to 10 pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run daily every 10 to 20 minutes, depending on time of day. The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily during summer every 30 minutes. The Express Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily during summer every 20 minutes.
Seasonal Highlights
Keep this Guide with you to get the most out of your trip to Yosemite National Park

W
hat do you want to do with your special time in Yosemite? In the height of summer, the possibilities are endless. Whether you want to get your heart rate up with a strenuous hike, read a book in a quiet spot, picnic, raft, or just hang out, the river is a great place to start.

Learn More about the Merced River
Love the river? Now is a great time to get involved in the future management of this special place. Check out our website at http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/mrp.htm for upcoming events.

Walk to a Waterfall
Yosemite Valley’s famous for its awe-inspiring waterfalls; each as distinct as the granite cliffs they dive over. While Yosemite Falls may be dry by August, Bridalveil, Vernal, and Nevada Falls flow all year. (See page 17 for hiking information.)

Visit the other valley, Hetch Hetchy
Almost an exact counterpart of the Yosemite…a visit to its counterpart may be recommended, if it be only to see how curiously nature has repeated herself.” —Josiah D. Whitney.

Hetch Hetchy provides spectacular vistas, waterfalls, and early season hiking. (See page 2 for a park map and area information.)

Explore a Sequoia Grove
Meet the most massive trees on earth as you explore a giant sequoia grove. Yosemite is home to three groves—the Mariposa Grove, which contains hundreds of sequoias, and the Tuolumnne and Merced Groves, which each hold dozens. (See page 2 for a map of the park.)

Travel Back in Time
Visit Wawona’s Pioneer Yosemite History Center and join “Backshot” for a horse-drawn stage ride! These 10-minute rides introduce you to an early chapter in Yosemite’s history. Fun for the whole family. (See pages 8 and 9 for history center and other program information.)

Stroll with a Ranger
Learn about the wonders of the park on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily throughout the park on a variety of topics including waterfalls, trees, bears, geology, Yosemite Indians and more. (See area program grids on pages 6, 7, 9, and 11.)

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.

Get outside and enjoy your park!
Summer offers spectacular views of waterfalls, great hiking, and endless opportunities for recreation. This is a great time of year to interact with Yosemite’s Wild and Scenic Merced River. Whether it be floating down the river itself, hiking or picnicking along the river’s banks, take the opportunity to be inspired by this phenomenal natural resource.

History and join “Buckshot” for a horse-drawn stage ride! These 10-minute rides introduce you to an early chapter in Yosemite’s history. Fun for the whole family. (See pages 8 and 9 for history center and other program information.)

Stroll with a Ranger
Learn about the wonders of the park on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily throughout the park on a variety of topics including waterfalls, trees, bears, geology, Yosemite Indians and more. (See area program grids on pages 6, 7, 9, and 11.)

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.

Access for People with Disabilities

For a complete list of accessible services, recreational opportunities, and exhibits, pick up an updated Yosemite Accessibility Guide which is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm, or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 or 209/372-0645 for more information.

Accessible parking spaces are available just west of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. To reach these, enter the Valley on Southside Drive.

A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Please contact the Park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 or 209/372-0645 for more information. Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advance request. Inquire at a visitor center.

Audio tours are available for the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.

Emergency Information

Medical Clinic (in Yosemite Valley) Open 7 days per week from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM for primary and urgent care needs. Phone: 209/372-4637.

Dental Clinic (in Yosemite Valley) 209/372-4200

For up-to-date road, weather, and park information: 209/372-0200

Sudden changes in weather are common in the Sierra Nevada. Call the number above or check at a visitor center for the most recent weather conditions.

Lost and Found
To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite’s restaurants, hotels, lounges, shuttle boxes or tour services, call 209/372-4517. For items lost or found in other areas of the park, call 209/379-1001.

Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 6 and 7 for times and meeting places.)

Discover the Night Sky
Attend the “Starry Skies Over Yosemite Valley” for a wild ride through the universe to learn about stars, constellations, planets, meteors, and other night sky features, all from the comfort of Yosemite Valley. Sign up at any tour desk. (See page 4 for tour desk locations.)

Go to the Theater
Yosemite Theatre LIVE offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances that bring Yosemite’s history to life. Discover the world of John Muir and other characters from the park’s rich history. (See page 7 for shows and starting times.)

Have Fun with the Family
Learn about Yosemite, meet a park ranger, and have a blast by becoming a Yosemite Junior Ranger or Yosemite Little Cub. Check in with any visitor center to find out how. Stop by the Nature Center at Happy Isles for another great place to explore with the family. (See page 12 for the Jr. Ranger Page.)

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 5 for museum hours and a list of gallery events and features.)
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.

Entrance Fees

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 800/444-9120 or 209/962-0429
  Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau 800/588-1333
  www.tcvb.com
- **Highway 41**
  Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau 209/878-3074
  Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau 866/446-1333
  www.tcvb.com
- **Highway 132/49**
  Coulterville Visitor Center 209/878-3074
  Mariposa County Visitor Center 866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081
  Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau 209/742-4567
  www.homeofyosemite.com
- **Highway 120 East**
  Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center, 760/647-6629
  www.leevining.com
  Calif. Welcome Center, Merced 800/444-5353 or 209/724-8104
  www.yosemite-gateway.org

Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley, open all year, is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. You can get there via Highway 41/Wawona Road from Fresno, Highway 140/El Portal Road from Merced, Highway 120 west/Big Oak Flat Road from Manteca, and (during summer) via the Tioga Road/Highway 120 east from Lee Vining. Yosemite Valley is home to massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls slows to trickle by August, a moderate hike will bring you to impressive Vernal and Nevada Falls. Walk to Mirror Lake, where you will see reflections of Half Dome. Gaze up at El Capitan, a massive granite monolith that stands 3,993 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the valley by foot, bike, car, on horseback, raft, or tour, you will behold scenery that will leave you breathless and eager to see what’s around the next corner.
Glacier Point

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the Yosemite’s high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley or Wawona. To get there from either of these places, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), to Chinquapin, then turn onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating—some might say unnerving—view 3,214 feet down to Yosemite Valley below.

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. The nearby Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite. Enjoy a horse-drawn stage ride, watch blacksmiths at work at the blacksmith shop, or hike one of the scenic trails. For more information, visit the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill’s Studio, adjacent to the historic Wawona Hotel. This was once a painting studio for the 19th-century artist Thomas Hill. The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is a short drive or help reduce congestion by taking the free shuttle from the Wawona Store.

Tioga Road and Tuolumne Grove

Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. It is usually open from late May or early June through sometime in November. The road’s elevation ranges from 6,200 to nearly 10,000 feet, so it offers an opportunity to experience many of Yosemite’s habitats. The White Wolf area, midway across the park, is the starting point for day hikes to Lukens Lake and Harden Lake. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking area on the Tioga Road, and walk one steep mile down to the grove. Or park at Merced Grove trailhead on Big Oak Flat Road and walk 1.5 steep miles down to the grove. These groves are smaller than the more-famous Mariposa Grove, but are quieter and off-limits to vehicles. Remember: walking down is easier than walking back up.

Tuolumne Meadows

Tuolumne Meadows provides a glimpse of the High Sierra. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by even higher granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. Stop at the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center for information about hiking to Cathedral Lakes, Elizabeth Lake, Dog Lake, Lembert Dome, or along the Tuolumne River through Lyell Canyon. Take advantage of the free shuttle service in Tuolumne Meadows or the Tuolumne Meadows Tour and Hikers’ Bus from Yosemite Valley.

Hetch Hetchy

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the city of San Francisco, is also home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. Due to its importance as a municipal water supply, no swimming is permitted, however. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open 7 am to 9 pm May 1 through Labor Day, with reduced hours during the rest of the year. Hetch Hetchy Road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is approximately a 1 ½-hour 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?

• In Wawona and downstream, the South Fork Merced River provides habitat for a rare plant, the Sierra sweet bay (Myrica hartwegii). This special status shrub is found in only five Sierra Nevada counties. In Yosemite, it occurs exclusively on sand bars and river banks along the South Fork Merced River downstream from Wawona and on Big Creek.

• Descending from Yosemite Valley, the Merced River becomes a continuous cascade in a narrow gorge littered by massive boulders. Arch and Elephant rocks and other landmarks rise above, all visible from the river and its banks. Dropping 2,000 feet in 14 miles, canyon walls rise steeply from the river and have many seasonal waterfalls cascading down to the river. Spring and fall bring special parades of colors, from redbuds and other plants warmly flowering in spring to bigleaf maples and other trees turning bright colors in fall.

• In Yosemite Valley, dropping over 594-foot Nevada Fall and then 317-foot Vernal Fall, the Merced River creates what is known as the “Giant Staircase.” Such exemplary stair-step river morphology is characterized by a large variability in river movement and flow, from quiet pools to the dramatic drops of the waterfalls themselves.
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. See pages 5, 6, and 7 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

Ranger Programs

Rangers give talks and walks every day about Yosemite’s natural and cultural history. See pages 6 and 7 for scheduled walks, talks, and evening programs.

Walking and Hiking

From easy walks to Lower Yosemite Fall, Cook’s Meadow, and Mirror Lake to strenuous hikes to the top of Yosemite Falls or Nevada Fall, Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. See page 17 for a list of hikes.

Bicycling

Several miles of bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Lodge or Curry Village. Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

Tours

(Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Lodge. Tours may be weather dependent.

- Yosemite Falls gives the Valley an extra touch of life when it’s flowing with spring runoff. You can walk to its base or take the strenuous trail to its top (see page 17).
- Half Dome, Yosemite’s most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook’s Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, and Glacier Point are just a few locations with dramatic natural processes at work.
- El Capitan, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan.
- Happy Isles is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16 or by walking from Curry Village. Cross the footbridges onto the isles or wander through outdoor and indoor exhibits detailing Yosemite’s geologic story.
- Tunnel View, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

The Valley Floor Tour is a 26-mile, two-hour open-air tram tour narrated by a park ranger (weather permitting). The tour departs Yosemite Lodge several times daily.

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

The Grand Tour includes the Valley, Glacier Point, and the Mariposa Grove. An experienced guide narrates each tour. The tour departs Yosemite Lodge at 8:45 am daily.

Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at the tour desks at Yosemite Lodge, Yosemite Village, Curry Village, and The Ahwahnee.

Mule & Horseback Rides

Horse or mule rides begin at the stable near North Pines Campground. Stable hours are 7:30 am to 5 pm daily. Information: 209/372-8348 (reservations strongly recommended).

Sightseeing

Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley include:

- Yosemite Falls
- Valley with spring runoff. You can walk to its base or take the strenuous trail to its top (see page 17).
- Half Dome, Yosemite’s most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook’s Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, and Glacier Point are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome.
- El Capitan, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan.
- Happy Isles is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16 or by walking from Curry Village. Cross the footbridges onto the isles or wander through outdoor and indoor exhibits detailing Yosemite’s geologic story.
- Tunnel View, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.
Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore
Visitor center and bookstore hours are 9 am to 7:30 pm. The visitor center is just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #5 and #9). The facility offers information, maps, and books. Explore the exhibits and learn how Yosemite's landscape formed and how people interact with it.

**FILM: SPIRIT OF YOSEMITE**
This inspiring visitor-orientation film provides a stunning overview of Yosemite’s splendor. It is shown every 30 minutes, Monday through Saturday between 9:30 am and 5:30 pm, and Sunday between noon to 5:30 pm in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

**Yosemite Museum**
Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center.

**INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT**
Open 9 am to 5 pm. Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite’s Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

**YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE**
Open daily from 9 am to 5 pm. The store offers books and traditional American Indian arts, crafts, jewelry, and books.

**VIEWS & VISITORS: THE YOSEMITE EXPERIENCE IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY**
This summer the museum gallery exhibit focuses on the Yosemite visitor experience from 1900 to 1946, an era of great change for the park. Photographs, paintings, ephemera, and historic artifacts from that era will be exhibited. Oral histories, digital slide shows and film footage will supplement the artifacts on exhibit. The exhibit will be open from June 8 to September 30, daily from 9 to 5, October 1 to 31, daily from 10 to 12 and 1 to 4.

**Ansel Adams Gallery**
In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9 am to 6 pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, other photographers and artists, camera walks, workshops, and classes. Activities are listed on the front porch.

July 14th – August 31st New Exhibit: “Within the Stone” by Bill Atkinson.

The show will consist of polished rock photos including newest work, plus a few of the existing favorites.

Artist’s Reception: July 20th, 3-5 p.m.
Light refreshments will be served.
Call 209/372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com.

**Wilderness Center**
The Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village adjacent to the post office. Hours are 7:30 am to 5 pm. Visit the wilderness center to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent bear canisters.

**Yosemite Art & Education Center**
The Yosemite Art & Education Center offers a selection of original art and art supplies, as well as four-hour art workshops Tuesday through Saturday (see pg. 6). Located south of the Village Store, the Center is open 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 4:30 pm daily.

**Nature Center at Happy Isles**
Open 9:30 am to 5 pm through September. Designed for nature-exploring children and their families, the nature center offers natural-history exhibits and a bookstore. The nature center is a short walk from shuttle stop #16.

**Yosemite Theater LIVE**
Yosemite Theatre LIVE offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances that bring Yosemite’s history to life. Discover the world of John Muir and other characters from the park’s rich history.

**LeConte Memorial Lodge**
LeConte Memorial Lodge is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm, with evening programs Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings, and some Thursday evenings. Evening programs are scheduled for 8:00 pm and are free. The Lodge has a library, children’s corner, and a new climate change exhibit. The Lodge is located at shuttle stop #12.

**Nature Center at Happy Isles**
Open 9:30 am to 5 pm through September. Designed for nature-exploring children and their families, the nature center offers natural-history exhibits and a bookstore. The nature center is a short walk from shuttle stop #16.

**Yosemite Valley**
Where to go and what to do

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<th>VALLEY SERVICES</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>POST OFFICES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Main Office</strong></td>
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<td>Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday: 10am to noon</td>
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<td><strong>Post Office</strong></td>
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<td>Monday-Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm</td>
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<td><strong>GROCERY, BOOKS, &amp; GIFTS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Yosemite Village</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Ansel Adams Gallery</td>
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<td>Yosemite Art &amp; Education Center</td>
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<td>Yosemite Bookstore - Visitor Center</td>
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<td>Yosemite Museum Store</td>
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<td>Village Store Gift/Grocery</td>
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<td>Habitat Yosemite</td>
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<td>Sport Shop</td>
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<td>Tour Desk - Village Store</td>
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<td><strong>The Ahwahnee</strong></td>
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<td>The Ahwahnee Gift Shop</td>
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<td>The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop</td>
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<td><strong>Village Store</strong></td>
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<td>Gift/Grocery</td>
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<td>Nature Shop</td>
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<td><strong>Curry Village</strong></td>
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<td>Tour Desk</td>
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<td><strong>Hiawatha Camp</strong></td>
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<td>Gift/Grocery</td>
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## SCHEDULED EVENTS IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

**June 29, 2011 - August 2, 2011**

### Yosemite Outdoor Adventures (YC)
The non-profit Yosemite Conservancy sponsors this year-round series of fun, educational field seminars; they’re a great way to deepen your connection to our park.

| July 8-10 | White Wolf Botany, flowers and more for casual botanists |
| July 13-15 | North Dome Morning Photo Backpack, Trip, a unique time and place |
| July 14-17 | Tuolumne Meadow Pastel Painting, with Yosemite’s Maria Donohoe |
| July 22-24 | Sierra Natural History, with David Lukas, the guy who wrote the book |
| July 22-24 | Half Dome Backpack, take it to the top with author Suzanne Swedo |
| July 30 | Tuolumne Flowers, Exploring the delights of the subalpine |
| July 31-Aug 6 | Advanced Backpack: Tenaya Lake to Ti Capitan with Dick Ewart |

Find all the details at www.yosemiteconservancy.org, or call 209/379-2646. Park entry and camping are included, hotel rooms have already been set aside for these courses. The Conservancy also arranges Custom Adventures for individuals, families and groups: adventure@yosemiteconservancy.org.

### Yosemite Art and Education Center Classes (YAECC)
Yosemite Art and Education Center (YAECC) offers rock climbing classes, guided climbs, custom backcountry trips, and daily hikes. Experience the park with a professional guide: 209/372-8459.

| June 28-July 2 | Margaret Mohr, Capture the Beauty, Watercolor |
| July 5-7th | Ann Raglan Bowns, Silk Painting |
| July 12th-16th | Linda Mitchell, Enjoying Watercolor |
| July 26th-30th | Byron Spicer, Abstract Fun with Landscape, Watercolor/Acrylic |

### Yosemite Mountaineering School (YMS)
YMS offers rock climbing classes, guided climbs, custom backcountry trips, and daily hikes.

| June 29-July 2 | Margaret Mohr, Capture the Beauty, Watercolor |
| July 5-7th | Ann Raglan Bowns, Silk Painting |
| July 12-16th | Linda Mitchell, Enjoying Watercolor |
| July 26th-30th | Byron Spicer, Abstract Fun with Landscape, Watercolor/Acrylic |

### LeConte Memorial Lodge (SC)
LeConte Memorial Lodge is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm, with evening programs Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings, and some Thursday evenings. Evening programs begin at 8pm and are free. The Lodge has a library, children’s center, and a climate change exhibit. The Lodge is located at shuttle stop #12.

### RELIGIOUS SERVICES

#### YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Valley Chapel, Sunday 6:15am, 11am, 6:30pm Thursday 7pm; ACMNP Campground Services 9am Lower Pines, Yosemite Village Shuttle Stop 9am-9pm, Bible Study throughout week. For worship & general information: Pastor Brent Moore, www.yosemitevalleychapel.org, 209/372-4831.

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC
Mass: Saturday, 6 pm at Lower Pines Amphitheater; Sunday, 10am at Valley Visitor Center Worship and Friday, 6:30 PM; 9008 Cedar C1 in Yosemite Village, 209/372-4729.

#### CHURCH OF CHRIST

#### SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
Lower River Amphitheater-Saturday (EXCEPT JULY 16) 9:45 am Main/Sabath School, 11 am Worship, 12:30pm potluck 209-586-4235 or 209-743-5522.

#### LATTER-DAY SAINTS

#### A CHRISTIAN MINISTRY IN THE NATIONAL PARKS
9am Sunday at Lower Pines, Yosemite, and Tuolumne Meadows campgrounds.

### SERVICES/ORGANIZATIONS

#### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
7:30am Sunday, Tuesday, & Thursday DNC General Office Blvd. Yosemite Village.

#### LIONS CLUB
First and Third Thursday of each month at noon, The Ahwahnee. Call 209/372-4447.

#### ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
Thursday at noon at The Ahwahnee

#### NPS National Park Service
DNC DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.

#### AAG The Ansel Adams Gallery
AAC American Alpine Club
SC Sierra Club
YC Yosemite Conservancy

#### S Programs offered for a fee
Indicates facilities accessible to visitors in wheelchairs. Short, steep inclines may be encountered.

A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Contact 209/372-4728 (TTY) or 209/372-9296 to request an interpreter. Advance notice of 2 days is requested.

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

### MORNING

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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Camera Walk / 15 hours: Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery (DNC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:05am</td>
<td>CHILDREN’S THEATRE LIVE: RANGE NED’S BIG ADVENTURE! 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:05am</td>
<td>Discovery Hike: Vernal Falls Bridge 3hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) $</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER WALK 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #14 (DNC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>PROGRAM: LECONTE MEMORIAL LODGE, SUSAN BARRY, “DRAWING BEARS” (July 3 only) 1 hr. (SC) limited to 25. Pre-registration at LML required</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:35am</td>
<td>Camera Walk / 15 hours: Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery (DNC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:05am</td>
<td>CHILDREN’S THEATRE LIVE: RANGE NED’S BIG ADVENTURE! 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:05am</td>
<td>Discovery Hike: Vernal Falls Bridge 3hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) $</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER WALK 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #14 (DNC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Art Workshop 1 hr. Yosemite Art and Education Center. Details at left. (DNC) $5 Donation</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:05am</td>
<td>HARVEST PROTECTORS OF YOSEMITE (SUP) (Up to 3 hrs. Drop-in program. Vegetation restoration field work for volunteers. Meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center. Wear closed toe shoes and long pants; bring water and snacks. (SUP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>Bike to Hike Tour 2½ hrs. Curry Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) $</td>
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<td>JUNIOR RANGER WALK 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #14 (DNC)</td>
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<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Welcome to Yosemite with Ranger Sherron Johnson (except June 29) (SUP) Drop-in conversation and orientation about Yosemite. From front of Yosemite Museum (SUP)</td>
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### Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families.

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**An NPS Interpretive Ranger engages young park visitors during a Junior Ranger Day Program. NPS Photo**
**Yosemite Guide   June 29, 2011 - August 2, 2011**

**MONDAY**

1:00pm Meet Your Yosemite (except Aug. 11) 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

1:30pm Ranger Walk – Ahwahnee Stories and Games 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS)

2:00pm Story Within the Stone 2 hrs. Curry Village Museum. Talk indoors at any tour desk (DNC)

2:00pm The Stampede 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

3:00pm Meet Your Yosemite 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

3:30pm Meet Your Yosemite 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

4:00pm Meet Your Yosemite 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

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5:00pm Meet Your Yosemite 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

5:30pm Meet Your Yosemite 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

**EVENING**

6:00pm TUESDAY** 8:30pm “Vintage Songs of Yosemite” performed by Tom Bopp. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (DNC)

6:00pm Meet Your Yosemite 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles camping ring, near shuttle stop #16

6:30pm Fully Moon Bike Ride (July 14 only) 2 hrs. Tours indoors at any tour desk (DNC)

7:00pm Yosemite Theater LIVE "Tales of a Yosemite Ranger" performed by Bumgardner. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (DNC)

7:00pm Junior Ranger Campfire 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles camping ring, near shuttle stop #16

7:30pm Ranger Program 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS)

8:00pm Evening Program 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (NPS)

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**TUESDAY**

1:00pm Meet Your Yosemite (except Aug. 11) 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

1:30pm Ranger Walk – Yosemite’s Legacy 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS)

2:00pm Meet Your Yosemite 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

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**WEDNESDAY**

1:00pm Meet Your Yosemite 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

1:30pm Ranger Walk – “In the Footsteps of Assil Adams” 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS)

2:00pm Story Within the Stone 2 hrs. Curry Village Museum. Talk indoors at any tour desk (DNC)

2:00pm The Stampede 1 hr. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

3:00pm Meet Your Yosemite 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

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**THURSDAY**

1:00pm Meet Your Yosemite 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

1:30pm Ranger Walk – Vernal Falls Bridge 1:30pm Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

2:00pm Story Within the Stone 2 hrs. Curry Village Museum. Talk indoors at any tour desk (DNC)

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Wawona, Mariposa Grove, and Glacier Point

Explore History
Discover Giant Trees
Find Amazing Vistas
These park areas offer endless opportunities for amazing experiences.

Wawona & Mariposa Grove

Coffee with a Ranger
Grab your mug and join a ranger in the Wawona Campground Amphitheater for coffee, tea, and hot cocoa. Use this time to plan your day or to get other questions answered. Every morning from 8:00 am to 8:45 am.

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 stories from Yosemite’s past. Once or twice a week, he will present an hour-long interpretive program on the vintage songs of Yosemite or the history of Wawona. These park areas offer endless experiences.

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

Experience Horse-Drawn Travel
Travel into history by taking a 10-minute horse-drawn stage ride. Tickets may be purchased at the Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. $4/adults and $3/child (ages 3-12).

Blacksmith Shop
Smell the burning coal, hear the ring of the hammer on the anvil, and watch a demonstration of the ancient art of blacksmithing.

Old-Fashioned Fourth of July!
You are cordially invited to join the staff of the Pioneer Yosemite History Center for an old-fashioned celebration of the 4th of July! Activities will include a parade, speeches, and games, such as Gunny Sack Races, Three-Legged Races, Egg Toss, and Tag-of-War. A fun time will be enjoyed by people of all ages. This celebration takes place at the Pioneer Yosemite History Center on July 4th between 2 and 4 pm.

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. Information about access for disabled people is available at the tram boarding area.

Getting to Mariposa Grove
Allow 1½ hours driving time to reach the grove from the Valley. Cars are prohibited beyond the grove parking lot. The access road to the grove may close intermittently due to limited parking. Trailers are prohibited on the Mariposa Grove Road. Private vehicles longer than 25 feet are not permitted on this road.

FREE MARIPOSA GROVE & WAWONA SHUTTLE
A shuttle stops at the Wawona Store, South Entrance, and Mariposa Grove. Visitors may park at the Wawona Store to board the bus. Shuttles operate beginning at 9 am, and the last shuttle leaves the grove at 6 pm, or after the last tour. Please use this free bus service to help reduce congestion and parking delays.

Mariposa Grove Museum
Open 10 am to 4 pm. Located in the Upper Mariposa Grove, the museum offers information, displays on giant sequoias.

Walking through the Grove
Trails into the grove extend uphill from the trailhead at the far end of the parking area. Interpretive signs between the trailhead and the California Tree provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead in Spanish, German, French, and Japanese.

Dogs or bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Grove.
## Evening Programs

Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening shadows in Yosemite Valley and the alpenglow (or moonrise) on the Sierra high country. Stargazing programs are offered, as well. Details at right.

### Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families.

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<td>Coffee with a Ranger (except Aug. 1) Hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS)</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (3) Hrs, Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</td>
<td>Sunset Ranger Talk (July 31 only) 1 hr. Glacier Point parking, overlooking the Valley (NPS)</td>
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<td>Hike to the Hidden Illioustree Fall 3½ hrs. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop (NPS)</td>
<td>Campfire Program (except Aug. 1) 1 hr. Bridalvei Campground, Loop C (NPS)</td>
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<td>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (4) Hrs, Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</td>
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### Farewell to Yosemite

**Friday, August 5**
- **5:30** Hike to the Hidden Illioustree Fall (NPS)
- **8:00** Campfire Program (NPS)

**Saturday, August 6**
- **10:50** Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (NPS)
- **11:45** Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (NPS)
- **12:30** Sunset Ranger Talk (NPS)
- **1:00** Campfire Program (except Aug. 1) 2½ hrs. Bridalvei Campground, Loop C (NPS)

**Sunday, August 7**
- **9:00** Campfire Program (except Aug. 1) 1½ hrs. Bridalvei Campground, Loop C (NPS)
Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, and Crane Flat

Tuolumne Meadows

**Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center**
Opening date pending, 9 am to 6 pm. For updated opening information and hours, please visit the park website at http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm.

**Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin, and Soda Springs**
Two trails, both flat and 3/4-mile long, lead to this historic area accessible only by walking. Parsons Memorial Lodge may be open from 10 am to 4 pm beginning in early July. Soda Springs are small, naturally-carbonated springs that attract birds and deer, especially at sunrise and sunset.

**Just for Kids**
Programs for children include Junior Rangers, a two-hour, ranger-led program for children (ages 7-12), and Campfire for Kids. Check local postings for program schedule possibly beginning July 9. Campfire for Kids begins when the campground opens.

**Ranger Walks**
Join a ranger to explore new areas and learn about geology, birds, flowers, history, the Tuolumne River, and more. These walks range from one to eight hours and, except for the long walks, are fairly easy. On Friday, end your day with a Music Walk. This easy stroll will inspire and delight. Check local postings for program schedule possibly beginning July 9.

**Evening Activities**
Come to a traditional, ranger-led campfire program for stories, songs, and insight into Yosemite. Program topics vary, and are posted at the campground, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. End your day with a star program (bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly). These programs begin when the campground opens.

**Mule and Horseback Rides**
Horse or mule rides begin at the Tuolumne Meadows stable. Stable hours are 7 am to 5 pm once open for the season. Information: 209/372-8427.

**Parsons Memorial Lodge Summer Series 2011**
All programs, unless otherwise noted, last approximately one hour. Allow 30 minutes walking time to Parsons Memorial Lodge from either Lambert Dome parking area or the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. Admission is free.

Sunday, July 17
Nutcrackers and Pines: Why Mutualisms Matter, 2:00pm Slide presentation by Shawn McKinney, Ecologist, National Park Service Inventory and Monitoring, Sierra Nevada Network

Saturday, July 23
Drawing Timberline Species, 2:00pm Slide presentation by artist Valerie P. Cohen with text by Michael P. Cohen, writer

Sunday, July 24
Biomimicry: Sustainable Innovation Inspired by Nature, 2:00pm – 3:30pm Slide presentation and discussion with Karen Allen, naturalist and Certified Biomimicry Professional

Saturday, July 30
An Entirely Synthetic Fish: How Rainbow Trout Beguiled America and Overran the World, 2:00pm-3:30pm Slide presentation by Anders Halverson, author, University of Colorado Center of Nevada Network

Sunday, July 31
The High Country of the Mind, 2:00pm Slide presentation, reading, and discussion with David Gilligan, naturalist and writer, Sterling College

**Big Oak Flat**
Open 8 am to 5 pm. The information station offers general park information, books, and maps. It also provides wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, and backpacking information.

**Merced Grove**
Yosemite’s quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of about 20 trees accessible only on foot. It’s a three-mile round-trip hike (about three hours) into the grove from Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). Located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance, the trail is marked by a sign and post labeled B-10.

**Tuolumne Grove**
This cluster of about 25 sequoias is near Crane Flat at the intersection of Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from Crane Flat into the grove. The path drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the return to the parking lot. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guiding nature trail.
TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

Programs tentatively begin July 9. Check local postings or call the visitor center for updates. Welcome to Tuolumne; balls begin when the visitor center opens for the season.

**TUOLUMNE MEADOWS**

- Coffee with a Ranger* 7:30 am. Delta Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk (starting July 2) 5:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 7) 3:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)

**WHITE WOLF**

- Pending White Wolf campground opening.

**CRANE FLAT/HODGDON MEADOW/ HETCH HETCHY**

- Pending Crane Flat campground opening.

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**FOOD & BEVERAGE**

- Tuolumne Meadows Grill 8:30 am to 8:00 pm. Meals are family friendly and reservations are recommended. Call 209-372-8416.
- Tuolumne Meadows Grocery Dining Room Breakfast: 7:00 am to 9:00 am; Dinner: 4:55 pm to 8:00 pm. Meals are served family style and reservations are strongly recommended.

**GROCERIES**

- Tuolumne Meadows Store Monday – Friday: 9am to 5pm* 8am to 8pm*
- Visitor HIke—Welcome to Tuolumne! Monday – Friday: 9am to 6pm* Inside the Visitor Center
- Tuolumne Meadows Bookstore Monday – Friday: 9am to 6pm* Inside the Visitor Center
- Tuolumne Meadows Gift & Apparel Store Monday – Friday: 8am to 4:30pm daily, closed for weekends.

**GIFTS & APPAREL**

- Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.
- Gas and propane available.

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**TUESDAY**

- Coffee with a Ranger* 7:30 am. Delta Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 2) 5:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 7) 3:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)

---

**WEDNESDAY**

- Coffee with a Ranger* 7:30 am. Delta Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 2) 5:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 7) 3:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)

---

**THURSDAY**

- Coffee with a Ranger* 7:30 am. Delta Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 2) 5:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 7) 3:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)

---

**FRIDAY**

- Coffee with a Ranger* 7:30 am. Delta Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 2) 5:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 7) 3:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)

---

**SATURDAY**

- Coffee with a Ranger* 7:30 am. Delta Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 2) 5:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 7) 3:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)

---

**SUNDAY**

- Coffee with a Ranger* 7:30 am. Delta Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 2) 5:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)
- Junior Ranger Walk—Birds (starting July 7) 3:00 pm. Delta Circle (NPS)

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**WHITE WOLF**

- Pending White Wolf campground opening.

---

**CRANE FLAT/HODGDON MEADOW/ HETCH HETCHY**

- Pending Crane Flat campground opening.

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

1. With an adult, pick a trail to walk. See page 17 of this Guide or stop by a visitor center to choose your trail. As you go, walk quietly, watch, listen, and think.
   Write the name of the trail you walked. ____________________________

2. Explore with your senses! Record the following.
   I see: ______________________   I hear: ________________________
   I smell: ____________________   I touch: _______________________

3. Leave no Trace! If you see trash or rubbish, pick it up. Junior Rangers learn to be good park stewards by bringing in a bag of trash. Recycle any recyclable materials you pick up or bring along.

4. Learn more. Go to a ranger-led program or visit with an Indian Cultural Demonstrator. Have the ranger or demonstrator sign below.
   Signed by: ___________________________________________________

5. Write down something you learned from a ranger or Indian Cultural Demonstrator.
   __________________________________________________________________

6. Think about this. Why do people work to protect national parks?
   __________________________________________________________________

7. When you complete this page, take it to a visitor center. There you will take your oath and receive your Junior Ranger badge.

*Expanded Junior Ranger and Little Cub programs (and the chance to earn a patch) are available in the Junior Ranger or Little Cub Handbooks, which can be purchased at any Yosemite Conservancy bookstore.
Bears and Wildlife

Enjoying wildlife safely and responsibly

Keep Wildlife Wild!

Black bears, coyote, deer, and grey squirrels are just a few of the many animal species in the park that are active year round. Learn how to help protect Yosemite’s wildlife.

Store Your Food Properly.

4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, berries, acorns, and grubs—that’s the typical daily diet of most bears. It’s a lot easier for a bear to eat the thousands of calories of food in an ice chest than it is to spend all day nibbling at grasses. Their incredible sense of smell allows them to detect things we can’t, which helps them find food—a black bear can smell a dead deer three miles away. To top it off, bears have excellent vision and can see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

If you see a bear, scare it away or keep your distance.

You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away. Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there is more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear.

If you see a bear anywhere else, consider yourself lucky—but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will be helping the bear become used to being around people. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed.

Drive the speed limit.

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

Red Bear, Dead Bear

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

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

Backpackers: Save Your Food, Save A Bear

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

Report Bear Sightings!

To report bear sightings, improper food storage, trash problems, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at 209/372-6322. 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).

Coyotes

Watching a coyote hunting for mice in one of Yosemite’s many meadows can be an amazing wildlife experience. Coyotes are opportunistic carnivores that primarily prey on small mammals. Like bears, their diets change throughout the year with food availability. Unfortunately, coyotes sometimes change their natural behavior to try to obtain human food. Approaching, and/or feeding coyotes can cause them to lose their natural fear of humans. Please do not stop to feed coyotes that you see along the sides of the roads. This encourages them to frequent roadways to beg for food, endangering both coyotes and drivers.

How to Store Food

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

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

Mountain Lions

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

For your safety:

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

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

What should you do if you meet a mountain lion?

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

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

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

Mountain Lions are magnificent creatures and native to Yosemite. Generally, they are calm, quiet, and elusive. Sightings are rare, so if you spot one, consider yourself privileged!
Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park

Permit Required to Hike Half Dome

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are now required seven days per week when the cables are up. This is an interim measure to increase safety along the cables while the park develops a long-term plan to manage use on the Half Dome Trail. The Half Dome Trail Stewardship Plan Environmental Assessment will be available for public review late summer 2011. The environmental assessment will detail the proposed alternative methods of managing use on the Half Dome Trail and their potential affects on the environment and visitors. To find out more about the plan visit www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/hdp.htm.

Permits for May and June were available on March 1; July, on March 1; August, on May 1; September, on June 1; and October, on July 1. Permits are not available in the park or on a first-come, first-served basis. We encourage permit holders unable to use their permits to make them available for other visitors by canceling them. You may cancel a permit or check for availability online at www.recreation.gov or by calling 877/444-6777. Up to four permits will be available per web session or phone call. Each permit has a service fee of $1.50. Backpackers with an appropriate wilderness permit can receive a Half Dome permit when they pick up their wilderness permit. Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area can descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit. More information is available at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm.

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 Water

• Stay away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards.
• Choose swimming areas carefully and swim only during low water conditions.
• Always supervise children closely.
• Avoid areas of whitewater, where streams flow over rocky obstructions.
• Never swim or wade upstream from a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Each year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.
• Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or on Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

Water Quality

To protect yourself from disease, treat any surface water before drinking. Treatment methods include boiling for five minutes, use of a Giardia-rated water filter, or iodine-based purifier. To prevent the spread of Giardia and other water-borne disease organisms, use restroom facilities where available, and always wash hands afterwards with soap and water. In natural areas where facilities are not available, wash, camp, and bury human waste at least 100 feet away from any water source or trail, burying human waste six inches deep and pack out any toilet paper.

Traffic Safety

Roads leading to the park are two-lane, narrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by observing the following simple rules. Please obey posted speed limits. Yosemite’s roads are used by both visitors and park wildlife. Use turnouts to pull completely out of the road, to take photos, consult the park map, or simply enjoy the park’s scenery and wildlife.

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.

Hiking, Backpacking, River and Creek Crossings, and Rock Climbing

With the heavy winter be prepared for full or partial snow cover well into the summer. Good navigation skills are necessary. While a trail may start out snow free be prepared for patches of snow or for the snow to become continuous. Hikers may lose the trail when crossing a stretch of snow and subsequently become disoriented while searching for the trail. Stay oriented by using landmarks and a map. The large amounts of water from snow melt will keep rivers high and mosquitoes around for a much longer period time.

• Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.
• Carry and know how to use a map and compass.
• Check weather forecasts.
• 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 Information

Wilderness permits are required year round for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Permits are issued and bear canisters are available for rent at the Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center, the Big Oak Flat Information Center, Half’s Studio in Wawona, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station during hours of operation. Self registration permits are available at the Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station until the Tioga Road opens for the season. Call the park’s main phone line at 209/372-0200, or check the web at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm, for additional information. 60% of the trailhead quota is available in advance. 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. 40% of the trailhead quota is available for first come first serve. First come first serve permits are available the day of at opening and the day before starting at 11 am.
Protecting Yourself and the Park

Prepare yourself for a wild experience. Yosemite is a place where natural forces—such as rockfall, fire, and flood—are constantly at work. Here, wildlife freely roams. This is a place where wilderness prevails. The National Park Service recognizes the importance of Yosemite’s natural processes and is bound by its mission to protect them for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. While you are enjoying your visit, be attentive to the special regulations in place to protect park resources and those designed for your safety.

**Rafting**

Conditions permitting, rafting on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley (Stonehenge Bridge to Sentinel Bridge) and the South Fork of the Merced River in Wawona is open from 10 am to 6 pm daily to any type of non-motorized vessel or other flotation device.

- The entire length of the Merced River in Yosemite Valley is closed to all flotation devices whenever the river gauge at Sentinel Bridge reads 6 5 feet or higher. Ask at a visitor center for conditions and obey all posted signs.
- You must wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device immediately available.
- Fallen trees and other natural debris in the river create important habitat for fish and other wildlife. Be alert—they can also create hazards for rafters.

**Fishing**

Fishing in Yosemite is regulated by state law. A valid California sport-fishing license is required for those persons age 16 years and older. When fishing, the license must be plainly visible by attaching it to an outer layer of clothing above the waistline.

- Trout season runs through November 15 (except Frog Creek near Lake Eleanor, which opens June 15).
- Special fishing regulations apply on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley from Happy Isles downstream to the Foresta Bridge in El Portal. Within these reaches of the river, it is catch-and-release only for rainbow trout. Brown trout limits are five fish per day. Only artificial lures or flies with barbless hooks may be used.
- The use of live or dead minnows, bait fish or amphipods, non-preserved fish eggs or roe is prohibited.
- Pets
  - Keep in mind, daytime temperatures can reach above 100 °Farenheit in the summer. Make sure to keep your pet cool and well-hydrated. In Yosemite, pet owners have a few rules to follow:
  - Pets are only allowed in developed areas and on roads and paved bike paths. Pets are not allowed anywhere in the Mariposa or Merced sequoia groves. They are not allowed on trails, in wilderness areas, or where signs are posted prohibiting them.
  - Pets must be on a leash (6 feet or less) or otherwise physically restrained.
- For the courtesy of others, human companions are responsible for cleaning up and depositing pet feces in trash receptacles.
- Pets are not allowed in any lodging facilities or other buildings within the park and are not allowed in some campgrounds.
- Pets may not be tied to an object and left unattended.

**Bicycling**

Bike rentals at Curry Village and Yosemite Lodge are open 8:30am to 8pm. Each season, plants are crushed from bicycle travel in meadows, campgrounds, and picnic areas. Please respect park resources and keep bicycles on paved roads and paved bicycle trails. Bikes are not allowed to travel off paved trails. Mountain biking opportunities are available in designated areas outside of Yosemite.

Weather in Yosemite

Dressing in layers and bringing plenty of water can 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 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. It is not uncommon for clouds to build up suddenly, bringing rain and/or thunderstorms to an otherwise sunny day. In September and October, temperatures in Tuolumne Meadows can dip well below freezing, while daytime temperatures at lower elevations, like Yosemite Valley and Hetch Hetchy, can soar to over 100° F.
A primitive overnight experience

Yosemite National Park contains 13 popular campgrounds. Up to seven are on a reservation system, the rest are first-come, first-served. From April through September, reservations are essential and the first-come, first-served sites often fill by noon during these months.

Camping Reservations

Reservations are required March through November for camp sites in Yosemite Valley’s car campgrounds and summer through fall for Hodgdon Meadow, Crane Flat, Wawona, and half of Tuolumne Meadows. All other campgrounds (except group and stock campgrounds) are first-come, first-served. Campground reservations are available up to five months in advance, on the 15th of each month at 7 am Pacific time. Log onto the website or call as soon as possible as some campgrounds fill within a few minutes of the opening period.

For campground reservations, visit www.recreation.gov (recommended) or call 877/444-6777 or TDD 877/833-6777 or 518/885-3639 from outside the US and Canada.

Hours:
7 am to 7 pm Pacific time (November through February)
7 am to 9 pm Pacific time (March through October)

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

Yosemite Valley

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

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

Camping in Areas Surrounding Yosemite

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

Group Campgrounds

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

Campsites in Yosemite National Park*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAMPGROUND</th>
<th>OPEN 2011 APPROX</th>
<th>MAX RV LENGTH</th>
<th>MAX TRAILER LENGTH</th>
<th>RESERVATIONS REQUIRED*</th>
<th>DAILY FEE</th>
<th># OF SITES</th>
<th>PETS</th>
<th>WATER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Pines</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>March 15 – Nov 28</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Pines</td>
<td>April 8-Nov 1</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td></td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Pines</td>
<td>April 15-Oct 3</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td></td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp 6</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>No RVs/Trailers</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$0/pers.</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South of Yosemite Valley</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wawona</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>April 20 – Oct 3</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Creek</td>
<td>July – TBD</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North of Yosemite Valley</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hodgdon Meadow</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>27 ft</td>
<td>Apr 10 – Oct 15</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane Flat</td>
<td>July – Oct 12</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>27 ft</td>
<td></td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamahak Flat</td>
<td>July – Oct 15</td>
<td>No RVs/Trailers</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wolf</td>
<td>July – Sep 12</td>
<td>27 ft</td>
<td>28 ft</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>July – Sep 15</td>
<td>No RVs/Trailers</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porcupine Flat</td>
<td>July – Oct 15</td>
<td>24 ft (limited)</td>
<td>20 ft</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows</td>
<td>July – Sep 28</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Exact campground opening and closing dates are subject to conditions.
Choose your adventure

With over 800 miles of hiking trails, what better way to enjoy the beauty of Yosemite than on foot? Ask a ranger at any visitor center for one of several free, day-hike handouts. Excellent maps and guidebooks are available at bookstores throughout the park.

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Fall</td>
<td>Bridalveil Fall Parking Area</td>
<td>0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #0</td>
<td>1.0 mile round-trip, 30 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock</td>
<td>Camp 4 Hiker Shuttle Stop #7</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 2-3 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Upper Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7.2 miles round-trip, 6-8 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 2,100-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror Lake (a seasonal lake)</td>
<td>Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernal Fall Footbridge</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>1.4 miles round-trip, 1-2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate, 400-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Vernal Fall</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>3 miles round-trip, 2-4 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>same as above</td>
<td>7 miles round-trip, 5-6 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,900-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Half Dome</td>
<td>same as above</td>
<td>14 mi (via Mist Trail) or 16.3 mi (via John Muir Trail) round-trip, 10-12 hours</td>
<td>Extremely Strenuous, 4,800-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point</td>
<td>Southside Drive</td>
<td>4.8 miles one-way, 3-4 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Floor Loop</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6</td>
<td>13 miles full loop, 5-7 hours full loop</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Day Hikes Outside of Yosemite Valley

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WAWONA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wawona Meadow Loop</td>
<td>Wawona Hotel</td>
<td>3.5 miles round-trip, 1.5 hours</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinging Bridge Loop</td>
<td>Wawona Store / Pioneer Yosemite Hist. Ctr. Parking Area</td>
<td>4.75 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taft Point</td>
<td>Sentinel Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentinel Dome</td>
<td>Sentinel Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUOLUMNE MEADOWS AREA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soda Springs / Parsons Lodge</td>
<td>Lambert Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>1.5 miles round-trip, 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lambert Dome</td>
<td>Lambert Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Moderately Strenuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Muir Trail through Lysil Canyon</td>
<td>Dog Lake Parking Area</td>
<td>8 miles one-way, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Easy, 200-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Lake</td>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Group Campground</td>
<td>4.8 miles round-trip, 4 to 5 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIDOGA ROAD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lukens Lake</td>
<td>White Wolf 1</td>
<td>5.4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Porcupine Creek</td>
<td>Porcupine Creek 1</td>
<td>7 miles one-way, 4 to 6 hours</td>
<td>Moderately Strenuous, 1,000- to 4,000-foot loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>Lukens Lake Trailhead 2</td>
<td>10.5 miles one-way, 5 to 9 hours</td>
<td>Moderately Strenuous, 3,000- to 4,000-foot loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Clouds Rest</td>
<td>Tenaya Lake 2</td>
<td>19 miles one-way, 10 to 12 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAPAMA FALLS</td>
<td>O’Shaughnessy Dam</td>
<td>5 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These are drop-off points via the Tuolumne Meadow Hikers’ Bus.

Meet Your Yosemite: Trail Crew

The maintenance and restoration of Yosemite’s 800 miles of trails is in the hands of the Yosemite Trail Crew. This is a huge job that requires the hard work and dedication of many men and women. Remo Fickler, one of Yosemite’s Trail Crew Supervisors, reveals what it takes to keep trails up to par:

Q: What does trail work involve?
A: Maintaining trail tread, drainages, and stabilizing slopes, mostly to control erosion; brushing vegetation from growing in the trail; clearing the trail of fallen trees and boulders; repairing and reconstructing footbridges; breaking, shaping, and laying rock; and terrace steps, retaining walls, and water breaks using dry stone masonry techniques.

Q: How many workers are on each crew?
A: Anywhere from 8 to 15

Q: What is your crew’s current project?
A: We are working on reconstructing retaining walls on the Mist Trail and on the John Muir Trail, below Nevada Fall

Q: What is the most challenging part of trail work?
A: Manually moving a rock from point A to point B

Q: How much does a cubic foot of granite weigh?
A: 170 lbs on average

Q: Which trail is your favorite hike?
A: Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne

Q: Do you have any advice for visitors looking for an enjoyable day hike?
S: Snow Creek Trail, it’s steep, but it gives you a neat perspective of Half Dome and you get to see evidence of Yosemite’s active geology – Another good day hike is Porcupine Creek to North Dome; it is not nearly as steep and you still get great views – also bring plenty of water!

So when you are out hiking and admiring Yosemite’s scenery, take a minute to look down and admire Yosemite’s trail work!
“Nature is ever at work building and pulling down, creating and destroying, keeping everything whirling and flowing, allowing no rest but in rhythmical motion, churning everything in endless song out of one beautiful form into another.”

— John Muir

For many people, summer means vacation. Vacation destinations often include some body of water, or interaction with water at some point. Chances are, if you are reading this you are on vacation. There is also a good chance that your time in Yosemite will involve water. It may be a river or creek, perhaps a high alpine lake, or saturated meadow. Maybe it is an enormous body of water. It may be a river or creek, perhaps a high alpine lake, or saturated meadow. Maybe it is an enormous body of water. It may be a river or creek, perhaps a high alpine lake, or saturated meadow. Maybe it is an enormous body of water. It may be a river or creek, perhaps a high alpine lake, or saturated meadow. Maybe it is an enormous body of water. It may be a river or creek, perhaps a high alpine lake, or saturated meadow. Maybe it is an enormous body of water. It may be a river or creek, perhaps a high alpine lake, or saturated meadow.

How do we protect a river that has been here much longer than us? Or how do we protect the river from ourselves?

The Merced River is at the heart of many competing interests and values. Some may favor utilizing the river and its banks for recreation, such as floating, swimming, fishing, or camping. Maybe you enjoy hiking along the water’s edge, getting drenched by the mist of Vernal Fall in spring. Others may pursue more creative outlets, with the river as a backdrop for painting or writing. Some might prefer hiring a mule to go up the John Muir Trail, or perhaps you’d rather venture into Yosemite’s Wilderness to indulge in a more primitive experience. Do you see yourself described here?

We have to keep in mind the interest of the river and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to which it is protected under. We must protect the plant and animal species that rely on a healthy river and associated riparian and meadow habitats, such as harlequin ducks, black swifts, or the Sierra sweet bay. We must protect and plan for the natural processes that exist, like flooding and rockfall, and we need to acknowledge the past by protecting the resources left behind by those before us. We must also recognize that each action, each proposed change, has a consequence. How do we give to future generations such a special gift that has been passed on to us?

• We share our opinions and experiences.
• We study.
• We learn from what nature can teach us through science and research.
• We bring together our collective wisdom.
• We participate and stay involved.

Pull up a chair, visit our website, and join us on this journey.

River of Mercy
By: Marea Ortiz

Regardless, your view is most likely associated with water in one form or another.

Many Yosemite visitors are drawn to the Merced River and its South Fork – apparent and unmistakable in Yosemite Valley, El Portal, and Wawona. Originating on the slopes of Mount Lyell and the Clark Range, the Merced River shapes its earthen cradle as much today as when it embraced its first drop of water. This river has cut and carved, peeled and plucked, flooded and froze its way down and through these mountains. Two million to twenty thousand years ago, rivers of ice traced the path of the ancestral Merced River. Several periods of glaciations over that time have helped shape awe inspiring cliffs. Along the way it has left behind precipitous drops and serene canyons. The mighty Merced, born from winter’s snow, flows freely.

For nearly the past eight thousand years the replenishing waters of the Merced have helped support human life. In 1987, Americans felt this river deserved wild and scenic river status and laws were put into place to protect it. Now it is time for the current generation to continue a legacy for a river that so many people have deemed special over time.

Today, it is up to us to assure that the Merced River will always flow freely and cleanly. That it will continue to support the special components that it is responsible for the survival of these rare and unique qualities that depend on the river or are related to it in some way or another. Such biological phenomena as the Valley oaks in El Portal, the natural settings that allow for wilderness or educational activities, or the cultural aspects deemed unique such as the historic Wawona Covered Bridge.

Planning for the Future of the Merced River

In 1987 the U.S. Congress designated the Merced a Wild and Scenic River to preserve its free-flowing condition and to protect and enhance the unique values that made it worthy of special protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Both the Merced River above, through, and below Yosemite Valley, and the South Fork Merced River above, through, and below Wawona have this special status.

In accordance with the law, the National Park Service (NPS) is preparing the Merced Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (Merced River Plan/EIS) for the 81 miles of the river within Yosemite National Park. When completed, the plan will guide future management of activities in the river corridor, including site-specific planning needed to protect the river in Yosemite Valley, El Portal, Wawona, and the Merced Lake High Sierra Camp. The overarching goal of the Merced River Plan (MRP) is to protect and enhance the values for which the river was designated wild and scenic, leaving the river unimpaired for future generations.

MRP to Date:
Each of the completed steps to develop the Merced River Plan has involved public help and input. Join us later this summer as we look to you to help us formulate alternatives for this plan!

• Public outreach (to solicit input and ideas) occurred during the public scoping period [2009-2010]
• We identified the rare and unique values that need to be protected by this plan. These values are related to, or dependent on the river (Outstandingly Remarkable Values). [Draft Revised Outstandingly Remarkable Values January 2011]
• We collected data and conducted research to fill in any remaining gaps of knowledge about the river and associated corridor (1/4 mile from the banks of the river).

[Draft Baseline Conditions Report – April 2011]

What Can You Do?
Join us later this summer for the initial work to begin developing the alternatives that will shape this plan.

Information will become available electronically and in-person, followed by public workshops where your participation will be needed!

To Learn More:
Join our e-mail list to receive periodic electronic newsletters related to this and other park planning efforts:
• Yose_Planning@nps.gov
• http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/mrp.htm
• http://www.nps.gov/yose/naturescience/hydrology.htm
Enhance the Visitor Experience

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

Supporting Your Park

Yosemite Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy is the 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 60 million in grants to help preserve and protect the park. The work of the Conservancy can be found in every aspect of the visitor experience from trail restoration, bear-proof lockers, wilderness permits, wildlife preservation, 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 go online at: www.yosemiteconservancy.org

Want to get involved?

Join park and partner staff to learn about projects and plans at a free monthly public Open House! Opens Houses will be held at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Auditorium on:

June 29, 1-4pm Open House: Highlighted projects will include: The Ansel Adams Gallery Rehabilitation, Tenaya Lake Area Plan, and Badger Pass Rehabilitation

July 27, 1-4pm. Open House: Highlighted projects will include: Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation, Curry Village Rockfall Hazard Zone Structures, Half Dome Trail Stewardship, Mariposa Grove Restoration Plan, and the Tuolumne River Plan. Park fees are waived for those attending. For more information, visit us on the web at http://www.nps.gov/yose/

June 21, 5-8pm Adventure Risk Challenge Poetry Reading, Lower Pines Amphitheater. Join us for a public poetry reading celebrating extraordinary teens whose observations of nature, preceptions of self-identity and connection to community will inspire and leave you awestruck by their experience in the Adventure Risk Challenge (ARC) program.

June 30, 1-5pm: Wawona Hotel Sunroom (above the Golf Shop)

The Sierra Nevada Research Institute Annual Open House is a great chance to learn about the collaborative research projects and educational programs affiliated with the University of California’s first research facility located in Yosemite National Park. Now in its 6th summer of operation, UC Merced’s Yosemite Field Station (YFS) programs represent an extraordinary partnership among UC Merced, Yosemite National Park, Delaware North Companies, and the Yosemite Conservancy. The 2011 Open House will feature presentations by high school and university students participating the innovative Adventure Risk Challenge Program and Yosemite Leadership Program, a unique performance exploring the interface of art and scientific research, and a chance to learn about the nascent National Parks Institute. The morning will include the opportunity to tour the field station facilities in Wawona. There will be ample time to meet the students, summer artists in residence, YFS researchers, and others involved in running and supporting the YFS programs.

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.yi.org.