Yosemite Valley Shuttle System

The Valley Shuttle operates daily from 7am to 10pm, serving stops in numerical order. From 10am to 7pm, service operates every 10 minutes. From 7-10am and 7-10pm, service operates every 20 minutes.

The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9am to 6pm. Shuttles run daily every 30 minutes.

Year-round Route:

1. Visitor Parking
2. Yosemite Village
3. Yosemite Lodge
4. Yosemite Village
5. Yosemite Village
6. Lower Yosemite Fall
7. Camp 4
8. Upper Pines Campground
9. Yosemite Village
10. Yosemite Village
11. Yosemite Village
12. LeConte / Housekeeping Camp
13a. Stables
13b. Stable
14. El Capitan Bridge
15. Yosemite Valley Shuttle System
16. Happy Isles
17. Happy Isles
18. Mirror Lake Trailhead
19. Mirror Lake Trailhead
20. Mirror Lake Trailhead
21. Mirror Lake Trailhead

Summer-only Route:

1. Valley Visitor Center
2. Yosemite Village
3. Yosemite Lodge
4. Yosemite Village
5. Yosemite Village
6. Lower Yosemite Fall
7. Camp 4
8. Upper Pines Campground
9. Yosemite Village
10. Yosemite Village
11. Yosemite Village
12. LeConte / Housekeeping Camp
13. Stables
14. El Capitan Bridge
15. Yosemite Valley Shuttle System
16. Happy Isles
17. Happy Isles
18. Mirror Lake Trailhead
19. Mirror Lake Trailhead
20. Mirror Lake Trailhead
21. Mirror Lake Trailhead

The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9am to 6pm. Shuttles run daily every 30 minutes.

Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System

- Campground
- Parking
- Picnic Area
- Restroom
- Walk-In Campground

Experience Your America   Yosemite National Park            Volume 37, Issue 7

Photo Courtesy of the Ansel Adams Family

Mirror Lake Loop is currently closed due to rockfall

El Capitan Shuttle operates daily from 7am to 10pm, serving stops in numerical order. From 10am to 7pm, service operates every 10 minutes. From 7-10am and 7-10pm, service operates every 20 minutes.

The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9am to 6pm. Shuttles run daily every 30 minutes.

Stop # Location
1. Visitor Parking
2. Yosemite Village
3. Yosemite Lodge
4. Yosemite Village
5. Yosemite Village
6. Lower Yosemite Fall
7. Camp 4
8. Upper Pines Campground
9. Yosemite Village
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11. Yosemite Village
12. LeConte / Housekeeping Camp
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15. Yosemite Valley Shuttle System
16. Happy Isles
17. Mirror Lake Trailhead
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The Valley Shuttle operates daily from 7am to 10pm, serving stops in numerical order. From 10am to 7pm, service operates every 10 minutes. From 7-10am and 7-10pm, service operates every 20 minutes.

The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9am to 6pm. Shuttles run daily every 30 minutes.
W hat do you want to do with your special time in Yosemite? For many, part of the Yosemite experience is reliving the memories while sharing photos of your trip with family and friends. Yosemite has always attracted artists and photographers. Learn more about Ansel Adams and his Yosemite legacy by visiting The Ansel Adams Gallery. And read our feature story on page 18.

Take a Hike! With approximately 900 miles of trails, Yosemite is a great place to hike! Make sure your hike is a safe one. Visit a Visitor Center and Bookstore for trail information and maps, and be sure to check the weather before you leave.

Walk to a Waterfall Yosemite Valley is 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 For many, part of the Yosemite experience is reliving the memories while sharing photos of your trip with family and friends. Yosemite has always attracted artists and photographers. Learn more about Ansel Adams and his Yosemite legacy by visiting The Ansel Adams Gallery. And read our feature story on page 18.

Travel Back in Time Visit Wawona’s Pioneer Yosemite History Center and join “Backshoth” 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.)

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.)

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. 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.)

Emergency Information

EMERGENCY DIAL 911 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.

Medical Clinic (In Yosemite Valley) Open 7 days a week from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM for primary and urgent care needs. Phone: 209/372-4627

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

Yosemite Valley Garage (24-hr. emergency towing available) 209/372-8320

Lost and Found To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite’s restaurants, hotels, lounges, shuttle buses or tour services, call 209/372-4357. For items lost or found in other areas of the park, call 209/379-1011.

Go to the Theater Yosemite Theatre L!VE 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.)

9th Annual Yosemite Facelift September 26-30 Volunteer to help clean up Yosemite! Join the National Park Service and the Yosemite Climbing Association for this official National Public Lands Day event, picking up litter and performing special projects to clean up Yosemite after a busy summer. All volunteers must register on site to participate (no advance registration), and should wear long pants, closed-toed shoes, and be prepared for the weather. For more information contact 209/379-1850 or yose_volunteers@nps.gov, or visit the Yosemite Facelift 2012 Facebook page.

What’s Inside:

01 Seasonal Highlights
04 Yosemite Valley
08 Tuolumne Meadows
12 Become a Junior Ranger
13 Wildlife
16 Camping
17 Hiking
18 Feature Story
19 Supporting Your Park

Seasonal Updates
Keep this Guide with you to Get the Most Out of Your Trip to Yosemite National Park

Valley View Photo Courtesy of the Ansel Adams Family
Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places in the park!

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>Valid for 7 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>In a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse. Valid for 7 days.</td>
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<td>$40</td>
<td>Valid for one year in Yosemite.</td>
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<td>$80</td>
<td>Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.</td>
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<td>$10</td>
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</tr>
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<td>(Lifetime) For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interagency Military Pass (Free)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Lifetime) For active duty U.S. military and dependants</td>
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</table>

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
800/445-8120 or 209/962-0429

Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/446-1331, www.tob.com

Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
559/563-4636
www.yosemitethisyear.com

Highway 132/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
209/787-3074

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, 760/947-6629
www.leeving.com

Calif. Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5353 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 3,593 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 8 am to 7 pm through October 31st, 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 ¼-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.

HANTAVIRUS INFORMATION
Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases that are harmful to humans. Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is a rare but serious disease spread in the droppings and saliva of infected rodents. Not all rodents are infected with hantavirus, but infected rodents have been found throughout the US. You can be in close proximity to park rodents, so it is important you take steps to protect yourself from HPS.
Tell housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice in your tent or cabin and do not clean up the area yourself. Keep doors shut and do not eat or bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container. Do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings. HPS begins with aches, fever, and chills 1-6 weeks after exposure, progressing to cough and difficulty breathing. Seek medical attention immediately if you experience these symptoms.
Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas and 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.

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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.

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 and snow conditions permitting. Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Lodge or Curry Village. Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

Yosemite Falls or Nevada Fall, Yosemite Valley, Cook’s Meadow, and Mirror Lake to Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It 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 Bridge, Tunnel View, and Glacier Point.

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Tours

Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Lodge. Tours may be weather and snow conditions permitting.

The Ahwahnee

Information: 209/372-8348

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Tours

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Tours

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Yosemite Valley
Where to go and what to do

Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore
Visitor center and bookstore hours are 9am to 6pm. 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, Sunday between noon and 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 9am to 5pm. 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.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM GALLERY
Yosemite Viewed: 19th and 20th Century Landscape Paintings. This exhibit features a selection of landscapes from the Yosemite Museum collection ranging from Thomas Ayres’ 1855 drawing of the view from Inspiration Point to a late 20th century interpretation of the same scene by Jane Ayres. Works by Albert Bierstadt, Thomas Moran, Chris Jorgensen, Chiura Obata, and others will be included. The Cosmopolitan Register, which includes signatures of prominent visiting artists, and the Cosmopolitan interactive, will be part of the display. Yosemite Museum Gallery, 10am-12pm, 1pm-4pm daily through October 31.

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. Call 209/372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com.

Exhibit: Penny Otwell – New Work
August 20th - September 29th (Reception September 13th, from 3-5pm)
This is Otwell’s third solo show at The Ansel Adams Gallery and she has become one of the gallery’s best selling artists. 2012 will bring a new series, HIGH SIERRA 2012, which the artist is currently working on. Otwell’s work is distinctively her own style and she has both corporate (PATAGONIA, INC., DELAWARE NORTH, INC.) and private collectors who follow her work.

New Exhibit: Sally Owens and Tom Killion “The High Sierra: Two Views”:
September 29th - November 17th (Reception Saturday, October 20th 3-5 pm.)

Wilderness Center
The Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village adjacent to the post office. Hours are 8am to 5pm. Visit the wilderness center to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent bear canisters.

Yosemite Art Center
The Yosemite Art Center invites you to participate in one of our art workshops held Tuesday through Saturday. There is a requested donation of $10. Supplies, cards, gifts, and original art are available for purchase. The Center is located in Yosemite Village next to the Village Store. Yosemite Art Center Hours: Daily 9am-4:30pm (closed for lunch) Art Workshop hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10am-2pm. For other classes please check the Scheduled Events in Yosemite Valley.

Nature Center at Happy Isles
Open 10am to 4pm daily (closed for lunch). Designed for nature-exploring children and their families, the nature center offers natural-history exhibits. The nature center is a short walk from shuttle stop # 16.

Yosemite Theater LIVE
Yosemite Theater LIVE offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of fantastic theater performances. Discover the historical Yosemite of John Muir and current excitement of our rock climbers and rescue rangers. (See page 7 for shows and starting times.)

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 7:00 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. Open through September 30, 2012.

VALLEY SERVICES
POST OFFICES
Yosemite Village
Main Office
Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
Saturday: 10am to noon
Yosemite Lodge
Post Office
Monday-Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm

GROCERIES AND TOURS
Yosemite Village
Village Store Gift/Grocery
8am to 9pm
Degnan’s Deli
7am to 5pm
Tour Desk - Village Store
7:30am to 4pm, closes for the season Oct. 7

Yosemite Lodge
Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm
Tour Desk
7:30am to 7pm

CAMPING
Yosemite Village
Gift/Grocery
8am to 9pm
Tour Desk
7:30am to 3pm, closes for the season Oct. 7

Housekeeping Camp
Gift/Grocery
8am to 6pm

SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY
Housekeeping Camp
Laundry 8am to 10pm
Shower 7am to 10pm

Ca. 1880 painting by Thomas F. Laycock, oil on canvas, catalog no. 23998
Yosemite Outdoor Adventures
The non-profit Yosemite Conservancy sponsors this year-round series of fun, engaging field programs; they're a great way to deepen your connection to our park.

September 8
High Country Hawkwatch Raptor migration along the crest
Mammoth Peak Summit A good hike to a special summit

September 9
Miwok-Paute Basketry Miwok-Paute women share their heritage

September 28
Mariposa Grove Discovery Into the big trees with our fire ecologist

September 30
Wawona Photography Autumn's glow in our southern basin

Find all the details at www.yosemiticonservancy.org/activities, or call 209/379-2317, ext. 10. Park entry and camping are included, and motel rooms have already been set aside for these programs. The Conservancy also arranges Custom Adventures for individuals, families and groups: adventures@yosemiticonservancy.org.

Yosemite Art Center Workshops (YAC)
The Yosemite Art Center invites you to participate in one of our art workshops held Tuesday through Saturday. There is a requested donation of $10. Supplies, cards, gifts, and original art are available for purchase. The Center is located in Yosemite Village next to the Village Store. Yosemite Art Center Hours: Daily 9am-4:30pm (closed for lunch)

September 4th - September 8th
Osamu Saito Capture your Yosemite in Watercolor
Karen Bieber Making a Watercolor Journal of Yosemite

September 11th-September 15th
Chris Van Winkle Plein Air Experience Watercolor
Barbara Rosenthal Charcoal/Soft Pastel/ Light and Yosemite

September 12-September 16th
Marcy Wheeler Impressive Expressive Yosemite
HennethaIpaImna Monotype Expressions Printmaking

Yosemite Mountaineering School (YMS)
YMS offers rock climbing classes, guided climbs, custom backcountry trips, and daily hikes. Evening programs begin at 8pm and are free. The Lodge has a library, children's corner, and a leconte memorial lodge (Sc)

September 4th - September 8th
through Saturday. There is a requested donation of $10. Supplies, cards, gifts, and original art are available for purchase. The Center is located in Yosemite Village next to the Village Store. Yosemite Art Center Hours: Daily 9am-4:30pm (closed for lunch)

September 25th - September 29th
Barbara Rosenthal Charcoal/Soft Pastel/ Light and Yosemite
Karen Bieber Making a Watercolor Journal of Yosemite

October 2nd - October 6th
Mary Wheeler Impressive Expressive Yosemite
HennethaIpaImna Monotype Expressions Printmaking

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 corner, and a climate change exhibit. The Lodge is located at shuttle stop A12.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES
YOSEMITINE COMMUNITY CHURCH (YOSEMEIY CHAPEL) 209/372-4881, www. yosemitechapel.org Pastor Brent Moore Resident Minister
SUNDAY SERVICES 8:15 am (Sunday School available) 11:00 am (Memorial Day-Labor Day ONLY, no Sunday School) 6:30 pm Sunday Evening Service/Bible Study A.C.M.N.P.S. Sunday morning Campground Services Lower Pines and Wawona Campgrounds Amphitheater 8:00am TUESDAY BIBLE STUDIES Men's and Women's Bible 7:00pm, call chapel THURSDAY MIDWEEK SERVICE Thursday Evening Service 7:00pm Various Bible Studies during the week call for times and locations.
ROMAN CATHOLIC Sunday, 10am at Valley Visitor Center Theater Saturday, 6pm, Lower Pines Amphitheater, 209/372-4729.

Yosemite Community Church
Church of Christ
El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am Info: 209/372-2100

A CHRISTIAN MINISTRY IN THE NATIONAL PARKS 8am Sunday at Lower Pines, Wawona, and Tuolumne Meadows campgrounds.

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 7:00pm Sunday, Tuesday, & Thursday DDC General Office Blvd. Yosemite Village.
LIONS CLUB First and third Thursday of each month at noon, The Ahwahnee. Call 209/372-4475.
RODERTY INTERNATIONAL Thursday at noon at The Ahwahnee. Reservations information: 209/372-8459.

MORNING
8:15am  Ranger Walk - Yosemite's Legacy  1 1/2 hrs. Front of Valley Visitor Center (NPS)
10:00am  Meet Your Yosemite  15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS)

9:00am  Camera Walk  1 1/2 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)
10:00am  Meet Your Yosemite  15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS)

10:00am  Art Workshop  4hrs  Yosemite Art Center (YC) $. For more information see page 6.

11:30am  FAIRLY CRAFTS Yosemite Art Center (YC)
1:00pm  Meet Your Yosemite  15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS)

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

4:00pm  Camera Walk  1 1/2 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)
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5:30pm  FAIRLY CRAFTS Yosemite Art Center (YC)
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9:00pm  Meet Your Yosemite  15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS)

10:00pm  Art Workshop  4hrs  Yosemite Art Center (YC) $. For more information see page 6.

AAC American Alpine Club
DAC DDC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.
NPS National Park Service
SC Sierra Club
TAAG The Ansel Adams Gallery
YAC Yosemite Art Center
YC Yosemite Conservancy
YMS Yosemite Mountaineering School
$ Programs offered for a fee

Indicates facilities accessible to visitors in wheelchairs. Short, steep inclines may be encountered.

Sign Language interpreting is available upon request. Contact Deaf Services at 209/379-5250 (v/tx) Two weeks advance notice is requested.

Assistant Listening Devices are available upon advanced request. Inquire at a visitor center.
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<td><strong>Yosemite Forum</strong> (September 11 only) 1 hr. “A mammal’s take on the Rapture Hypothesis, Jacob’s Ladder, and other notions of gloom, doom, and uniform change in alpine ecosystems” (Valley Visitor Center Auditorium (NPS))</td>
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<td><strong>Naturalist Stroll</strong> (except Sept 9) 1 hr. See local listings for title, The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC)</td>
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<td><strong>Yosemite Theater LIVE:</strong> “Yosemite Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Soldier, 1904” starring Ranger Shelton Johnson. (except 9/23) 1 1/2 hrs. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) $</td>
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**Programs printed in ALL CAPS & COLOR are especially for Children and their Families.**
Wawona, Mariposa Grove, and Glacier Point

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.

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 with slide or music accompaniment. Check with Tom at the piano for dates and times.

Wawona Information Station at Hill’s Studio

Open 8:30 am to 5 pm. The Wawona Visitor Center offers information about park activities, Wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. Located on the grounds of the Wawona Hotel, Hill’s Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park at the Wawona Store parking area and follow the path up the hill. 209/375-9531

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)

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

Photo: “Buckshot” Burrel Maier and the Wawona Stage Coach/ NPS Photo
### Programs printed in **ALL CAPS & COLOR** are especially for Children and Their Families

#### Glacier Point

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

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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (except Sept 8 &amp; 29) ½ hr. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS)</td>
<td>Wawona Campground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (Sept 29 only) 10 min each Purchase tickets at Grey Barn in Pioneer Yosemite History Center $4 adult / $3 child 3-12 (NPS)</td>
<td>Grey Barn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Vintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC)</td>
<td>Wawona Hotel Lounge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, and Crane Flat

Just for Kids
Programs for children include Junior Rangers, a two-hour ranger-led program for children (ages 7-12), and Campfire for Kids.

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.

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.

Mule and Horseback Rides
Horse or mule rides begin at the Tuolumne Meadows stable. Stable hours are 7:30am to 5pm. Information: 209/372-8427. Closes for the season Sept. 15th.

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

Merced Grove
Yosemite’s quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of about 20 big trees accessible only on foot. It’s a three-mile round-trip hike (about three hours) into the grove. The trail drops down 1.5 miles making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. There is no potable water at the parking area or in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you.

Tuolumne Grove
The trail head for this grove of about 25 sequoias is near the intersection of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga roads at Crane Flat. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from the parking area into the grove. The trail drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the uphill return to the parking lot. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. There is no potable water at the parking area or in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you.
Yosemite Guide  September 5 - October 9, 2012

**FOOD & BEVERAGE**

Tuolumne Meadows
Tuolumne Meadows Grill
8am to 5pm
Closes for the season Sept 23

Tuolumne Meadows Lodge
Dining Room
Breakfast: 7am to 9am
Closes for season after breakfast Sept 16

Crane Flat
FREE SHUTTLE BUS
Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass
FREE SHUTTLE BUS

**GROCERIES**

Tuolumne Meadows Store
9am to 6pm
Closes for season at noon, Sept 24

Crane Flat
9am to 5pm

**GIFTS & APPAREL**

Tuolumne Meadows Store
9am to 6pm
Closes for season at noon, Sept 24

**POST OFFICE**

Tuolumne Meadows Post Office
Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm
Saturday: 9am to 1pm
Closes for season Sept 24

**GAS STATIONS**

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

Crane Flat
8am to 5pm
Diesel available.
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

**FREE SHUTTLE BUS**

Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass
Closes for the season Sept. 16th

See map, page 10. Free shuttle service is available along the Tioga Road from Olmsted Point to Tioga Pass. Service begins when conditions permit.

Shuttles travel between Tuolumne Meadows, Olmsted Point and stops along the Tioga Road, including Tuolumne Meadows Campground, and all way points to Tioga Pass. The shuttle also runs in the morning and afternoon.

Service begins at the Lodge at 7 am. Shuttles arrive at approximately 30-minute intervals between 7 am and 7 pm.

**TUOLUMNE MEADOWS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Sketching in Tuolumne (September 16 only) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring sunglasses, notebook, pen, and pencil (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Hike—Lembert Dome (except September 30 and October 7) 3 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 3 miles. Dog Lake parking, shuttle stop #9. Bring lunch, water, and rain gear (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except September 30 and October 7) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Winter’s A-Comin’! (except September 30 and October 7) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except September 30 and October 7) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Campfire (except September 30 and October 7) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Tenaya Lake Walk and Clean-up with Climber Ron Kauk (except September 1 and 8) 1 1/2 hrs. East of Tenaya Lake, shuttle stop #9 (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except October 1 and 8) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Sears and Other Wildlife (except October 1 and 8) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Campground Reservation Office (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except October 1 and 8) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Campfire (except October 1 and 8) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Geology of Tuolumne Meadows (except October 2 and 9) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except October 2 and 9) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Bennettsville Exploration (except October 2 and 9) 2 1/2 hrs. Tioga Lake turnaround east of Tioga Pass (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except October 2 and 9) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Campfire (except October 2 and 9) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Birds (September 5 and 12 only) 2 1/2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. Binoculars available (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Coffee with a Ranger (September 5 and 12 only) 1 hr Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Hike—In the High Country (September 5 and 12 only) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (September 5 and 12 only) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Along the River (September 5 and 12 only) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (September 5 and 12 only) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Campfire (September 5 and 12 only) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Stars (September 5 and 12 only) 1 hr. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Hike—Cathedral Lakes (September 13 and 20 only) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 7 miles. Meet at Cathedral Lakes trailhead, shuttle stop #7. Bring lunch, water, and rain gear (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—A Place Long Traveled: History of Tuolumne Meadows (except September 27 and October 4) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center shuttle stop #6 (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except September 27 and October 4) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—The Secret Life of Plants (except September 27 and October 4) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except September 27 and October 4) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Campfire (except September 27 and October 4) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Coffee with a Ranger (except September 28 and October 5) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15am</td>
<td>Ranger Hike—Gaylor Lakes Basin (except September 28 and October 5) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 5 1/2 miles. Meet at Gaylor Lakes parking lot at Tioga Pass. Bring lunch, water, and rain gear (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except September 28 and October 5) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk—Domes and Meadows (except September 28 and October 5) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except September 28 and October 5) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Campfire (except September 28 and October 5) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15am</td>
<td>Ranger Hike—Mono Pass (except September 29 and October 6) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 8 miles. Meet at Mono Pass trailhead. Bring lunch, water, and rain gear (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER WALK (except September 29 and October 6) 2 hrs. Ages 2-12. Dog Lake parking, shuttle stop #2 (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except September 29 and October 6) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne! (except September 29 and October 6) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS (except September 29 and October 6) 3 hrs. Cerniss Circle, Loop C in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Campfire (except September 29 and October 6) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Talk—Stars (except September 29 and October 6) 1 hr. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly (NPS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

8.30pm Night Prove 1 hr. Hogshead

8:00pm Coffee with a Ranger (except September 28 and October 5) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup (NPS) |

9.30am Ranger Hike: Hetch Hetchy 2 hrs. Bring water. Meet at the O’Shaughnessy dam (NPS) |

**CRANE FLAT / HODGDON MEADOWS / HETCH HETCHY**

**GROUNDS**

see local postings for changes to hours of operation.

**Check local postings for changes to hours of operation.**

Programs printed in ALL CAPS & COLOR are especially for Children and their Families.
Yosemite National Park offers a wide variety of wide variety of programs and activities for kids of all ages! To find kid-friendly programs, see pages 6, 7, 9, and 11 of the Guide for program descriptions:

**Be a naturalist.** Look for these common Yosemite wild animals. If you see one, make a note by the animal’s picture below. If you don’t see any of these wild animals during your visit, choose one you did see and draw it in the box on this page. Where did you see it? What was it doing? Also, remember never to feed or approach an animal.

- Coyote
- Black bear
- Golden-mantled ground squirrel

**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. What program did you attend? 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.
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:

Keep Wildlife Wild!

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.

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/food
canisters.html).

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 roadsides 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.

Location

Food Container

Your Vehicle

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. Never leave unattended food stranded to the outside of a vehicle or in a pickup truck bed.

Bear can smell food even if it’s sealed in the truck or glove compartment, and they recognize loose and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!

Your Campsite or Tent Cabin

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.

Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite.

Bear can smell food even if it’s sealed in the truck or glove compartment, and they recognize loose and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!

Picnic Areas & on the Trails

Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm’s reach. Don’t turn your back to your food.

Bear may eat campers 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.

Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite.

Backpacking in the Wilderness

Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite.

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 is 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!
Keep safety in mind as you explore the park.

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 in 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 4,300 feet). Should altitude sickness develop, descend to a lower elevation.

Hiking, Backpacking, River and Creek Crossings, and Rock Climbing
- Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.
- Carry and know how to use a map and compass.
- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.
- 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.
- Summer trails are not marked for winter use. When trails have full or partial snow coverage, good navigation skills are necessary.
- During spring runoff and high water any unbridged river or creek crossing can be hazardous. Always take extra time and use good judgment when crossing rivers and creeks.

Permit Required to Hike Half Dome
Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up for 2012, May 25 to October 8, conditions permitting. This interim measure increases safety along the cables while the park develops a long-term plan to manage use on the Half Dome Trail. In addition to the 300 permits per day released during the preseason lottery, approximately 50 permits will be available each day by lottery during the hiking season. These permits will be available based on the estimated rate of use and cancellations of permits (the exact number may change through the summer). The daily lotteries will have an application period two days prior to the hiking date with a notification late that night. To apply for a permit, visit Recreation.gov or call 877/444-6777. An application fee applies to all and a use fee applies to winning applicants. Backcountry climbers with an appropriate wilderness permit can receive a Half Dome permit when they pick up their wilderness permit (use fee applies). 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 wilderness 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.

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 Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center, the Big Oak Flat Information Center, Hill’s Studio in Wawona, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station during hours of operation. Check the web at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm, or call the park’s main phone line at 209/372-0200, 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 to make an advanced reservation. 40% of the trailhead quota is available for first come, first serve, walk up permits. The earliest walk up permits become available is the day before your trip starts at 11am. If there is space available, walk up permits can be obtained on the day of your trip.
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 (Stoneman Bridge to Sentinel Beach) 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 6.3 feet or higher. Ask at a visitor center for conditions and obey all posted signs.
- You must wear or have 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 those 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 amphibians, non-preserved fish eggs or roe is prohibited.

Pets

- Pets are only allowed in developed areas and on roads and paved bike paths. Pets are not allowed anywhere in the Mariposa or Merced sequoia groves. They are not allowed on trails, in wilderness areas, or where signs are posted prohibiting them.
- Pets must be on a leash (6 feet or less) or otherwise physically restrained.
- 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 9am to 6pm, with the last bike going out at 4:45pm. 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 day time 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 campers in Yosemite Valley’s six 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. 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 #4), 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 campers are not wheelchair accessible. Sites are available on a per-person basis, and six people will be placed in each campsite, regardless of number of people in your party. Camp 4 often fills before 9 am each day, May through September.

### 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 campsite. Tent camping only. Pets, RVs, and generators are not permitted in group sites.

### Campgrounds in Yosemite National Park*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAMPGROUND</th>
<th>OPEN (APPR)</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><strong>Yosemite Valley</strong></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 26</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Pines</td>
<td>March 3-Oct 29</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Pines</td>
<td>April 6-Nov 5</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp 4</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>No RV/Trailer</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$5/person</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>South of Yosemite Valley</strong></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 8 - Oct 1</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Valley</td>
<td>July 13 - Sept 10</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><strong>North of Yosemite Valley</strong></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 18 - Oct 15</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane Flat</td>
<td>June - Oct 9</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>27 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamarack Flat</td>
<td>May 25 - Oct 15</td>
<td>No RV/Trailers</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wolf</td>
<td>June - Sept 17</td>
<td>27 ft</td>
<td>24 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>June-Sep 10</td>
<td>No RV/Trailers</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</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>No</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows</td>
<td>June - Sep 26</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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.

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**General Info...**

To check same-day camping availability, call 209/372-0266

**Services**
- All sites include picnic tables, firepits with grills, and a food locker (33” x 45” x 18”). See page 5 for food storage regulations.
- Toilets are available in campgrounds; however, Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat have non-flushing vault toilets only and no potable water.
- Shower and laundry facilities are available year-round in Yosemite Valley.
- RVs over 24 feet are not recommended for Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat campgrounds, and RVs are not permitted in walk-in and group campgrounds. There are no hokups in Yosemite campgrounds, but there are sanitary dump stations in Yosemite Valley (all year), and summer only in Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows.

**Regulations**
- Proper food storage is required 24 hours a day.
- A maximum of six people (including children) and two vehicles are allowed per campsite.
- Quiet hours are from 10 pm to 6 am.
- Where permitted, pets must be on a leash and may not be left unattended.

**Campfires**
- In Yosemite Valley between May 1 and September 30, campfires are permitted between 5 pm and 10 pm. At other times of the year and in out-of-Valley campgrounds, fires are permitted at any time, as long as they are attended.
- Firewood collection (including pine cones and pine needles) is not permitted in Yosemite Valley; you may purchase firewood at stores near the campgrounds.

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**Camping**

Photo by Ray Santos

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

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**Camping in Yosemite National Park**

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**Camping in Areas Surrounding Yosemite**

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) operates a variety of campgrounds 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.

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**Food Storage**

See page 5 for food storage locker (33”d x 45”w x 18”h).

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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 #6</td>
<td>1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock</td>
<td>Camp 4 Near 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 2,700-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 Foortbridge</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 1,300-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Half Dome</td>
<td>same as above</td>
<td>14 mi (via Mist Trail) or 16.1 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 Meadow Loop</td>
<td>Wawona Hotel</td>
<td>5.5 miles round-trip, 1.5 hours</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinging Bridge Loop</td>
<td>Wawona Store / Pioneer Yosemite Hist. Dir. Parking Area</td>
<td>6.75 miles round trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentinel Point Road</td>
<td>Sentinel Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>2.3 miles round-trip, 1–2 hours</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentinel Dome</td>
<td>Sentinel Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>2.3 miles round-trip, 1–2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</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 Lyell 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>TUGA ROAD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lukem Lake</td>
<td>White Wolf</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</td>
<td>7 miles one-way, 4 to 6 hours</td>
<td>Moderate, 3,500- to 4,000-foot loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>Lukem Lake Trailhead</td>
<td>10.5 miles one-way, 5 to 9 hours</td>
<td>Moderately Strenuous, 3,500- to 4,000-foot loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Clouds Rest</td>
<td>Tenaya Lake</td>
<td>15 miles one-way, 10 to 12 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HETCH HETCH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></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>

Featured Trail:

Cook’s Meadow Loop, Yosemite Valley

(Easy, but may be a little muddy or icy in winter)

1 mile/1.6 km loop; 30 minutes [wheelchair accessible] [leashed pets allowed]

Begin at Valley Visitor Center (shuttle stop #5 or #9)

This short, easy walk offers stunning views of Half Dome, Glacier Point, and Royal Arches. From the visitor center, walk west along the bike path toward Lower Yosemite Fall. At shuttle stop #6, cross the street and follow the bike path, bearing left as the path forks. At Sentinel Bridge parking area, walk out onto the bridge to enjoy a classic view of Half Dome before returning to the parking area. Follow the boardwalk back across the meadow, cross the two streets, and turn right to return to the visitor center.
In the summer of 1901, a landscape painter by the name of Harry Best took an excursion to Yosemite Valley to camp and paint. Little did he know that this trip would have, indirectly, such an impact on so many, or that we would be telling this story now, nearly a century later. The following summer, in 1902, the Bests opened their studio in a tent in Yosemite Valley.

Best’s Studio was a family affair from the start. It was a husband and wife team producing and selling paintings, painted photographs, and photo finishing. Best’s Studio was the last of several artist studios that were established around the turn of the century, and paintings of his have hung in the White House for many years. His, and the company’s, success is attributed to a deep commitment to Yosemite National Park and the desire to share and create a positive Park experience for visitors.

Ansel Adams first came to Yosemite National Park in 1916 and returned in 1920 as a caretaker for the Sierra Club’s LeConte Lodge, still planning a career as a concert pianist. His goal brought him to Yosemite year round, and the children grew up in this idyllic spot. Ansel and Virginia had two children, Michael, born in 1933 in Yosemite, and Anne, born in 1935 in San Francisco. The family split its time between San Francisco, where Ansel still maintained the family home, and Yosemite. During the Second World War the family moved to Yosemite year round, and the children grew up in this idyllic spot. Ansel and Virginia published a children’s story book, Michael and Anne in Yosemite, which still occasionally becomes available on the secondary market.

Harry Best passed away in 1936, and Virginia inherited the business that she had been running for some years. Around this time, Ansel and Virginia conscientiously shifted the focus of the Studio to offer merchandise and services that fit with an ethic to respect the landscape and draw inspiration and creativity from the beauty of the environment. This ethic continues to guide The Ansel Adams Gallery. Ansel and Virginia published a number of books, cards, and other photographic related items.

In 1958 Ansel initiated the Yosemite Special Edition Photographs, a series of Ansel’s photographs printed under his supervision and differentiated from his exhibition prints by price and presentation. The Ansel Adams Gallery continues to offer the Yosemite Special Editions, printed by Alan Ross, a longtime assistant. The Gallery is the exclusive source for these beautiful photographs printed from Ansel Adams’ original negatives.

The Photography Workshop program began in 1940, and was one of the first photographic education programs in the country. The original workshops were one week long with several instructors, and groups of 10 to 12 students worked with different instructors in field, classroom, and darkroom sessions. Today the program continues with well-known photography instructors dedicated to continuing the experience of world class education, some of whom spent time with Ansel directly.

Virginia Best Adams operated the Studio until 1971, when she and Ansel turned the company over to Michael and Jeanne Adams, their son and daughter-in-law. During this time, the name of the business was changed to The Ansel Adams Gallery to reflect the primary focus of photography, and the powerful legacy that Ansel had in photography and environmental conservation. Photography and conservation are embodied in the work of Ansel Adams, and it is the purpose of the Gallery to encourage the values, efforts, and sense of awe that Ansel held and personified.

Today, the gallery continues to show the work of Ansel Adams and contemporary artists who continue to embody Ansel’s vision of exploration of Yosemite and other wild lands. Camera walks, classes, and workshops are all a great way to learn from photographers who can help visitors maximize their time in the park, and help create lasting and meaningful memories. Stop by for more information regarding these programs! We are located next door to the Visitor Center in Yosemite Village.
Enhance the Visitor Experience

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

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

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.anseladams.com

DNCParks & Resorts at Yosemite

DNCParks & Resorts at Yosemite (DNCP) 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. DNCP encourages its employees to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure.

For more information and employment opportunities with DNCP at Yosemite, visit online at: www.YosemitePark.com

NatureBridge

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

Yosemite Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy is the only philanthropic organization that is dedicated exclusively to the protection and preservation of Yosemite National Park and enhancement of the visitor experience. In recent years we have provided over $70 million in grants to Yosemite from the generous support from donors, volunteers and foundations. The Conservancy works to restore trails, protect wildlife through scientific research and habitat restoration, and offers outdoor programs that provide visitors with unique ways to connect with the park. It has funded projects in areas including trail and habitat restoration, wildlife protection, education, volunteering, and the production of award-winning books and DVDs. Learn more at www.yosemiteconservancy.org

Contact Us

Yosemite National Park
PO Box 577
9539 Village Drive
Yosemite, CA 95389
209/372-0200
http://www.nps.gov/yose/contacts.htm

The Ansel Adams Gallery

PO Box 455
Yosemite, CA 95389
209/372-4413
209/372-4714 fax
www.anneladams.com

DNCParks & Resorts at Yosemite

PO Box 578
Yosemite, CA 95389
801/559-5000
www.yosemitepark.com

Yosemite Conservancy

101 Montgomery Street, Suite 1700
San Francisco, CA 94104
800/469-7275
415/434-0745 fax
www.yosemiteconservancy.org

NatureBridge

PO Box 487
Yosemite, CA 95389
209/379-9511
209/379-9510 fax
www.nbi.org

Half Dome Photo by Christine Loberg

Park Planning and Updates

Providing Access and Protecting Resources: The Draft Tuolumne and Merced River Plans

Yosemite National Park is putting the final touches on river plans that will guide long-term resource protection, visitor use and facilities management in the Merced and Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River corridors. Starting this fall, Yosemite will host open houses, workshops, site visits, webinars and other opportunities for you to learn about and participate in the crafting of these plans. Visit Yosemite’s planning webpage to find out more about the plans, proposed release dates, and opportunities for public input.

http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/planning.htm

http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/trp.htm

Monthly Public Open House

Join park and partner staff to learn about projects and plans at a free monthly public Open House! The next Open House will be held on September 19, from 1-4pm in the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Auditorium.

Park entrance fees will be waived for those attending the Open House