The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7 am to 10 pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run 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.

Yosemite Valley Shuttle System

- **Year-round Route:**
  - Valley Visitor Center
  - Visitor Parking
  - Yosemite Village
  - The Ahwahnee
  - Dance Hall
  - LeConte / Housekeeping Camp
  - Yosemite Lodge
  - Kerman Bridge
  - Happy Isles
  - Mirror Lake Trailhead
  - Mirror Lake parking
  - Mirror Lake Trailhead

- **Summer-only Routes:**
  - Yosemite Village
  - Valley Visitor Center
  - Visitor Parking
  - Yosemite Village
  - The Ahwahnee
  - Dance Hall
  - LeConte / Housekeeping Camp
  - Yosemite Lodge
  - Kerman Bridge
  - Happy Isles
  - Mirror Lake Trailhead
  - Mirror Lake parking
  - Mirror Lake Trailhead

**Stop #** | **Location**
--- | ---
1 | Visitor Parking
2 | Yosemite Village
3 | The Ahwahnee
4 | Dance Hall
5 | LeConte / Housekeeping Camp
6 | Yosemite Lodge
7 | Kerman Bridge
8 | Happy Isles
9 | Mirror Lake Trailhead
10 | Mirror Lake parking
11 | Mirror Lake Trailhead

**Valley Visitor Shuttle System**
- **Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System**
  - Campground
  - Parking
  - Picnic Area
  - Restroom
  - Walk-In Campground

**El Capitan Bridge**
- Mirror Lake Loop is currently closed due to rockfall.
Seasonal Highlights

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park


Seasonal Highlights

Keep this Guide with you to get the most out of your trip to Yosemite National Park

What do you want to do with your special time in Yosemite? Whether you want to get your heart rate up with a strenuous hike, read a book in a quiet spot, or just hang out in a picnic area or campground with friends, by late spring, the days are long and the possibilities abound!

Walk to a Waterfall
Yosemite Valley is famous for its awe-inspiring waterfalls; each as distinct as the granite cliffs they drive over. While Yosemite Falls may be dry by August, Bridalveil, Vernal, and Nevada Falls flow all year. Be safe! Water ways, including rivers, streams, and lakes, are dangerous. Read our Feature Story on page 18 for more information about how to stay safe around them, and be sure to check trail conditions before you head out on a hike or backpack.

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.)

Travel Back in Time
Visit Wawona’s Pioneer Yosemite History Center and join “Buchshorn” 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 Yosemite on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily throughout the park on a variety of topics including waterfalls, trees, bears, geology, and more. (See area program grids on pages 6, 7, 9, and 11.)

Get outside and enjoy your park!
Summer offers spectacular views of waterfalls, great hiking, and endless other opportunities for recreation.

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.)

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.

Go to the Theater
Yosemite Theater 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.)

Get Outdoors With Yosemite Conservancy
Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing Yosemite’s wonders. Learn about the forces that shaped Yosemite on an adventure with the park’s expert geologist or summit Half Dome with an expert leading you every step of the way. Looking for a custom Yosemite experience? Contact us to plan a custom adventure for your family or group. Visit www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or 209/379-2317 ext. 10 to find your adventure today.

Habitat Protectors of Yosemite (HaPY)
Be part of the solution! Join park staff to help protect Yosemite’s habitat through ecological restoration and litter cleanup projects. Volunteers of all ages are welcome to work one to three hours. Volunteers must wear long pants and closed-toe shoes; a hat and sun protection is recommended, and we encourage volunteers to bring water and snacks. All tools will be provided. Groups larger than 10 should contact the volunteer program in advance: 209/379-1850.

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 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. Turn left on Sentinel Drive. Turn left on Northside Drive, and follow the blue and white signs.

A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Please contact the park’s deaf services coordinator (209/372-0645) to request an interpreter. Advance notice is requested. 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

Yosemite Village Garage offers 24-hour emergency roadside assistance

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

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

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 209/379-1001.

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

What’s Inside:

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

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

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 Luhens 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 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.

DID YOU KNOW:

• Yosemite has over 750 miles of trail. This compares to over 10,000 miles of sidewalk in Los Angeles and over 12,000 miles in the city of New York.

• In 2012, there were 215 search and rescues. 157 of them involved day hikers. 18 involved technical rock climbing.

• Surfaces in Yosemite are slippery. Gravel trails, polished granite (which is slick even when dry), and wet rock that may not appear wet. Wearing proper footwear and keeping your attention on your steps can help make a more enjoyable trail adventure.
Yosemite Valley

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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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.

Naturalist Programs

Naturalists give walks and talks 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 offers 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.

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 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 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 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 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.

- Glacier Point, is a 26-mile, one-way open-air tram tour narrated by a park ranger (weather permitting). The tour departs 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.

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- Ahwahnee'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.

- Walking and Hiking programs.

- Naturalist Programs

- Bicycling

- Tours

- Yosemite Valley

- Mule & Horseback Rides

- Sightseeing

- The Incomparable Yosemite Valley

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- Yosemite Valley
Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center is open from 10am to 6pm, and bookstore hours are 9am to 7pm. 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 about Yosemite's landscape 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 day from 9am to 6pm. The gallery is open from 9am to 6pm.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM GALLERY EXHIBITS

The Yosemite Museum offers a collection of original art and art supplies, as well as four-hour art workshops daily (see pg. 6). Located near the Village Store, the Center is open 9am to noon and 1pm to 4:30pm daily.

YOSEMITE THEATER LIVE!

YOSEMITE THEATER LIVE! offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances. Revive as park ranger Shelton Johnson and other performers bring the park's adventures to life! Tickets $8 adults, $4 children.

The Ansel Adams Gallery

In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9am to 6pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, other photographers and artists, and a bookstore. The art center is open from 9am to 6pm.

Yosemite Art Center

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

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In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9am to 6pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, other photographers and artists, and a bookstore. The art center is open from 9am to 6pm.

LeConte Memorial Lodge

LeConte Memorial Lodge is open Thursday through Sunday from 10am to 6pm, 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.

Where to go and what to do

Yosemite Valley

In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9am to 6pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, other photographers and artists, and a bookstore. The art center is open from 9am to 6pm.

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Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing the wonders of Yosemite through our Outdoor Adventure programs. Join one of the many year-round programs available and explore everything Yosemite has to offer.

June 15


June 21-30

Half Dome: Make it to the Top #1 with Yosemite filmmaker Steven M. Bumgardner.

June 26

Photographing the “Moonbow” Capture the raiy of a lunar rainbow with veteran photographer John Senier.

Find detailed information about these programs at www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or call 209/379-2317, ext. 10. Camping and park entry are included, additional lodging options available.

Yosemite Art Center Workshops (YAC)

YC Yosemite Conservancy invites you to enjoy a hands-on art experience in Yosemite Valley. Celebrated artists lead workshops from 10am - 2pm Monday through Saturday.

Mondays

Art Workshop 1 hr. Yosemite Art Center (YC) $ For more information see page 6

Tuesdays

Saturdays

Thursdays

Mondays

Filmmaking on the Edge with Yosemite filmmaker Steve M. Bumgardner.

Tuesdays

Yosemite Search and Rescue with veteran rescue ranger John Dill.

Wednesdays

Conversation with a Tramp An Evening with John Muir performed by Lee Stetson.

Thursdays

John Muir Among the Animals performed by Lee Stetson.

Mondays

Bike to Hike Tour 2.5 hrs. Curry Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (DNC) $.

Tuesday

Camping and park entry are included, additional lodging options available.

Yosemite Lodge Tour Desk. Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) $.

Yosemite Art Center (YC)

10:00am JUNIOR RANGER TALK

9:00am Discovery Hike - Vernal Falls Bridge 1 hr. Yosemite Valley Discovery Hike (DNC) $.

9:00am Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) $.

9:00am Art Workshop 1 hr. Yosemite Art Center (YC) $ For more information see page 6.

9:00am A Buffalo Soldier Remembers featuring park ranger Shtlon Johnson.

9:00am Adventure Hike – Vernal/Nevada Falls 2 hrs. Yosemite Art Center (YC) $.

9:00am Using the Digital Darkroom: Landscapes and Lightroom 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center (YC) $.

9:00am Using the Digital Darkroom: Portraiture 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center (YC) $.

9:00am Yosemite Photography Workshops 3.5 hrs. Yosemite Art Center (YC) $.

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9:00am Yosemite Photography Workshops 3.5 hrs. Yosemite Art Center (YC) $.
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<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #390</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #380</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15pm</td>
<td>Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #370</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #360</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #350</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15pm</td>
<td>Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #340</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #330</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #320</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15pm</td>
<td>Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #310</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #290</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15pm</td>
<td>Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #280</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #270</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00am</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #260</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15am</td>
<td>Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS AND COLOR** are especially for children and their families.
Wawona, Mariposa Grove, and Glacier Point

Explore History, Discover Giant Trees, and 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. See page 9 for scheduled programs.

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.

Ranger Evening Programs

Join a ranger for an hour of nature, history, and insight into Yosemite. Topics vary nightly. See page 9 for dates, times, and locations.

Wawona Visitor Center at Hill’s Studio

Open 8:30 am to 5 pm, the 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.

Wawona Art Workshops (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to enjoy a hands-on art experience in Wawona and Mariposa Grove.

June 3–June 8: Sketching with Watercolor, Barbara Rosenthal

June 10–June 15: Paint your own field guide to Southern Yosemite, Kathy Bernal

June 17–June 22: A Little Painting, Color, Shape and Pattern, Byron Spicer

June 24–June 29: Make your own Travel Journal, Sidney Wildesmith

Please register in advance at the Thomas Hill Studio in Wawona. Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday programs meet at the Thomas Hill Studio in Wawona at 10:00 am. Wednesday and Thursday programs take place in Mariposa Grove and meet at 8:45 at the shuttle stop. Call 209/372-1442 for more details.

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. See page 9 for dates, times, and locations.

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.

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.

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.

Big Trees Tram Tours

Please see Big Trees Ticket Kiosk for times.

Mariposa Grove Museum

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

Dogs/bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Grove.

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. See page 9 for dates, times, and locations. $5/adults and $4/child (ages 3-12)

Interpretive signs are available at the trailhead and provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead in Spanish, German, French, and Japanese.

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The access road to the grove may close intermittently due to limited parking.
Programs printed in **ALL CAPS AND COLOR** are especially for children and their families.
Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, and Crane Flat

Tuolumne Meadows

Please walk on official trails to protect fragile meadow ecosystems.

Pets, bicycles, and strollers are only allowed on roads open to vehicles.

Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center

Once open for the season, hours will be 9am to 5pm. Park orientation, trail information, books, maps, and displays available. 209/372-0263

Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center

Open 8 am to 5 pm. The wilderness center offers wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, visitor information, maps, and general park information. The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center is located just south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, across from shuttle stop #3.

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 10am to 4pm beginning mid-June. 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. Program schedule begins June 26.

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. Program schedule begins June 26.

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. Program schedule begins June 26.

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.

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. The information station is located just inside the park entrance on Hwy 120W.

Merced Grove

Yosemite’s quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of approximately 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.

There is no potable water at the parking area or down in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trail is marked by a sign and a post labeled B-10. Tuolumne Grove

Tuolumne Grove

The trail head for this grove of approximately 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.

To Tioga Pass

7 miles

& Hwy 120

7 miles

& Hwy 120

To

Tioga Pass

To

Lyell Canyon & Vogelsang

10
### FOOD & BEVERAGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Grill</td>
<td>Open May 31, conditions permitting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Lodge</td>
<td>Breakfast - Reservations recommended - 7am-9am Dinner-Reservations Strongly Recommended - 5:30pm - 8pm 209/372-8413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wolf Lodge</td>
<td>Breakfast - 7:30am to 9:30am. Lunch - Sandwiches, beverages, and snacks available at the front desk store Dinner - 5:30pm to 8pm 209/372-8416</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GROCERIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Store</td>
<td>Daily 9am to 5pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane Flat Store</td>
<td>9am to 5pm, 9am to 7pm beginning May 24th 9am to 24 Hour Pay at the Pump</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GIFTS & APPAREL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mountaineering School</td>
<td>Open June 7, conditions permitting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport Shop</td>
<td>9am to 4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Bookstore</td>
<td>Inside the Visitor Center 9am to 5pm, when Visitor Center is open.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Store</td>
<td>Open June 7, conditions permitting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### POST OFFICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Post Office</td>
<td>Monday – Friday: 9am to 5pm Saturday: 9am to 1pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### GAS STATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows</td>
<td>9am to 5pm, Gas and propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane Flat</td>
<td>9am to 5pm, 9am to 7pm beginning May 24. Diesel &amp; propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### FREE SHUTTLE BUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>Shuttle service scheduled to begin June 7, conditions permitting. 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 Lodge and Olmsted Point with stops along the Tioga Road, including Tuolumne Meadows Campground and the visitor center. The shuttle also makes morning and afternoon runs to Tioga Pass. Service begins at the Lodge at 7am. Shuttles arrive at approximately 30-minute intervals between 7am and 7pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>8:00pm Ranger Campfire 1 hr. Hodgdon Meadows Campfire Circle (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>9:00am Ranger at the Dam 1 hr. (drop in) Meet at O’Shaughnessy Dam (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>1:00pm Ranger in the Grove 2 hrs. (drop in) Tuolumne Grove of Sequoias (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>8:00pm Starry, Starry Night 2 hr. Crane Flat area. Make reservations at the Big Oak Flat Info. Station or call 209/ 379-1899 (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>7:00pm Twilight Walk 1 hr. meet at Hodgdon Meadows Campfire Circle (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>1:00pm Ranger at the Dam 1 hr. (drop in) Meet at the O’Shaughnessy Dam (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>11:00am Ranger in the Grove 2 hrs. (drop in) Tuolumne Grove of Sequoias (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>8:00pm Ranger Campfire 1 hr. Hodgdon Meadows Campfire Circle (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>10:00am Ranger @ the Dam 1 hr. (drop in) Meet at the O’Shaughnessy Dam (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>1:00pm Ranger in the Grove 2 hr. (drop in) Tuolumne Grove of Sequoias (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass</td>
<td>8:00pm Ranger Campfire 1 hr. Crane Flat Amphitheater (NPS)*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.
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, 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. If you get too close, you will make the bear uncomfortable. Bears are 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, 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 insect 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/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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>FOOD STORAGE</th>
<th>WHEN</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 odors, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats. Never leave unattended food strapped to the outside of a vehicle or in a pickup truck bed.</td>
<td>Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the truck or glove compartment, and they recognize loose and bagged 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 totes with windows closed.</td>
<td>Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even check food lockers to see if they’re secure. 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></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></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park

Protect Yourself...

Keep safety in mind as you explore the park

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 2013, May 24 through October 14, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 preseason lottery permits have already been issued for 2013. In addition, approximately 50 permits will be released by daily lottery throughout the season based on estimated under-use and cancellation rates (exact number may change throughout the summer). Applications for daily lotteries will be accepted 2 days prior to the desired hiking date between midnight and 1 pm. To apply, visit Recreation.gov or call 877/444-6777. A non-refundable application fee applies to all submissions and a use fee applies to winning applicants. Finally, a daily quota of 75 Half Dome permits will be available to overnight users with an appropriate wilderness permit (use fee applies). These permits may be acquired through early reservations (50 per day) or day before walk-up (25 per day). Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area may descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit. More information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm For backpackers more information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdwildpermits.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 white water, where streams flow over rocky obstructions.
- Never swim or wade upstream from of a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Each year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.
- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

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. 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. 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.

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 website 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. 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 11am.

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.

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 1-8 weeks after exposure, progressing to cough and difficulty breathing. Seek medical attention immediately if you experience these symptoms.

For more information on rodent-borne diseases and other environmental safety hazards visit: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yourself.htm

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.
...and Yosemite

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 6.5 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 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 amphibia, non-preserved fish eggs or roe is prohibited.

Pets

Keep in mind, daytime temperatures can reach above 100° Fahrenheit 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 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 (8:30am to 8pm beginning June 15). 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.

Yosemite Guardians

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park’s most important guardians. With 4 million people watching over its special plants, animals, historic, and archeological sites, imagine how well-protected these park resources could be!

During your visit to Yosemite be aware that there are people who either unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

• Feeding or approaching wildlife
• Collecting plants
• Hunting animals
• Collecting reptiles and butterflies
• Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
• Using metal detectors
• Driving vehicles into meadows
• Biking off of paved roads
• Camping outside of designated campgrounds
• Possession of weapons inside federal facilities

If you see activities that could harm people or park resources, jot down any descriptions or a vehicle license plate number and call the park dispatch office at 209/379-1992.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/ yoursafety.htm and find a copy of the Superintendent’s Compendium. This document is a compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions made by the superintendent, in addition to what is contained in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7 and 34), and other applicable federal statutes and regulations.
Camping

An adventurous 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 campsites in Yosemite Valley’s 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 518/883-3639 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 814), 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 campites 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.

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.

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.

Camping in Yosemite National Park*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAMPGROUND</th>
<th>OPEN 2012 (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><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 - Dec 2</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Pines</td>
<td>March 27 - Oct 15</td>
<td>30 ft</td>
<td>25 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Pines</td>
<td>April 3 - Nov 4</td>
<td>30 ft</td>
<td>25 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>RVs/Trailer</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$5/pers.</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOUTH OF YOSEMTE 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>25 ft</td>
<td>April 17 - Oct 7</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Creek</td>
<td>July 12 - Sept 9</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>25 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 YOSEMTE 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 17 - Oct 15</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane Flat</td>
<td>July 12 - 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>July 15 - Oct 15</td>
<td>RV/Trailer</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Creek (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wolf</td>
<td>July 15 - Aug 15</td>
<td>27 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>July 15 - Sept 3</td>
<td>RV/Trailer</td>
<td>N/a</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porcupine Flat</td>
<td>July 15 - Oct 15</td>
<td>24 ft (limited)</td>
<td>25 ft</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Creek (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows</td>
<td>July 12 - Sep 26</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>204</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 / TRAVEL 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, 1 hour round-trip to Mirror Lake, 5 miles, loop around lake</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, 2-3 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 / TRAVEL TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wawona</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 Hotel</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>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 Lysell Canyon</td>
<td>Dog Lake Parking Area</td>
<td>8 miles one-way, 3 to 6 hours</td>
<td>Easy, 200-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Lake</td>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Group Campground</td>
<td>8.8 miles round-trip, 4 to 5 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakeside 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>Moderately Strenuous, 1,000 to 4,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>Luhman Lake Trailhead</td>
<td>10.5 miles one-way, 5 to 9 hours</td>
<td>Moderately Strenuous, 1,000 to 4,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Clouds Rest</td>
<td>Tenaya Lake</td>
<td>19 miles one-way, 10 to 12 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hetch Hetchy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TRAVEL TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<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 Meadows Hikers’ Bus.

Featured Hike

The Mist Trail to Vernal and Nevada Falls

Vernal Fall footbridge: 1.6 miles/2.6 km round-trip; 1.5 hours with 450 ft/122 m elevation gain

Vernal Fall: 2.4 miles/3.9 km round-trip; 3 hours with 1,000 ft/366 m. elevation gain (via Mist Trail)

Nevada Fall: 5.4 miles/8.7 km round-trip; 5 to 6 hours with 2,000 ft/610 m. elevation gain (via Mist Trail)

Begin at Happy Isles (shuttle stop #16)

Trail Description:

An excellent view of Vernal Fall is visible from the footbridge at 0.75 miles (1.2 km). Beyond the bridge, at 0.2 miles, the Mist Trail and the John Muir Trail diverge. To proceed directly to the top of Vernal Fall, follow the Mist Trail 0.5 mile (0.8 km) up a steep granite stairway of over 600 steps. Prepare for slippery footing and a tremendous amount of waterfall spray in spring and early summer. The top of Nevada Fall may be reached by continuing 1.3 miles (2.1 km) along the Mist Trail.

Things to know before you go:

- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.
- 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.
Stepping Off the Sidewalk...
...and Into the Wild

Experience Your America    Yosemite National Park

Yosemite takes us away from the everyday world. It’s an escape into an amazing, wild place where we can take in things we would never see or experience at home. Yosemite takes us away from mornings like this:

You get on the train for work, and start reading the news. It’s been a rushed morning, grabbing coffee on the way to the station. No time to pack lunch, but you’ll grab something at the cafeteria. It was such a rushed morning, you even forgot your jacket. But you’ll be inside most of the day anyway. The train arrives at your stop, and you get ready to make a dash through the rain to your office. As you dash the half block to your building, your toe catches on a crack in the sidewalk and you go tumbling to the ground. You pick yourself up off the ground, work clothes wet and shoes scuffed. What a way to start the day.

Mornings like this are one reason we come to Yosemite. To be free for a day or two. Yosemite is worlds away from where most of us spend our days. It can heal, calm, re-create us. But being worlds away also means we must walk, enjoy, and prepare differently than we do in our typical everyday lives.

What happens if a similar scenario begins your morning on a Yosemite trail? No food and a storm bringing light rain to the granite around your trail. You’re becoming cold as your clothes become damp. You pick up speed to complete your trail faster before the rain gets worse, and you slip on the wet granite. You land hard, knocking your head on the ground and twisting your ankle. You’re unable to walk. What to do now, as you wait for someone on the trail to find you? The rain comes down harder, and you’re becoming colder and hungrier.

In Yosemite, the bicycle trails, the stores, and hotels can lure us into thinking of Yosemite like our city home. But it is not. Yosemite is where the sidewalk ends, and wild spaces begin. A few tips for venturing out into Yosemite, whether it be for a short or long adventure:

1. Research the trail before heading out. Most of us rely on Internet maps to navigate us along the roads in our car. In Yosemite, GPS can be an extra tool.

However, it does not replace a good trail map or knowledge of estimated round-trip time and elevation gain. These simple things help you decide how much food, water, and supplies to bring. It can also mean getting on the trail early enough so that your adventure can be finished before sun down.

2. Pack a variety of food and plenty of water. Junk food and power gels are extras to bring along, but don’t leave camp without some healthy, protein-packed food. Every hiker should carry his or her own water. Remember, there is no snack stand or cafeteria out on the trail. Your backpack will be your vending machine.

3. You are your own best friend. Be ready to take care of yourself. In the city, we can rely on a gas station attendant to give us directions if we’re lost, the corner market to grab a bottle of water, or our smartphone to provide information. Out on a trail, such resources are not readily available. Be prepared to take care of yourself in any situation, in case you are alone or in case help is delayed for a long period of time. Carry things like (but not limited to) a flashlight with extra batteries, a rain jacket, medication, moleskin for blisters, and as mentioned above, plenty of water and food.

4. Be ready and willing to turn around. When encountering the unexpected in your work commute, it is likely you find a detour around the obstacle. Obstacles on the trail can be low energy, running out of water, or weather, to name a few. Unlike at home, these obstacles are times to consider turning back to avoid the adventure becoming too adventurous.

5. Tell someone where you’re headed and when you will return. When you’re caught in a traffic jam and will be extremely late, you might call your family to let them know you’re fine and running behind. That last minute call isn’t an option on the trail. Giving someone your itinerary and return time means that if something does happen on the trail, friends or family can let rangers know.

For more information about how to keep yourself safe on the trail, read Yosemite’s Preventive Search and Rescue blog: [http://www.nps.gov/yose/blogs/psarblog.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/blogs/psarblog.htm) or attend Yosemite Theater Live every Tuesday night at 7pm to learn from an experienced Search and Rescue Ranger.

Story by Sharon Miyako and Lisa Hendy
Supporting Your Park

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.anseladamsgallery.com.

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite

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

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

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 life-long 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

Through the support of donors, Yosemite Conservancy provides grants and support to Yosemite National Park to help preserve and protect Yosemite today and for future generations. The work funded by Yosemite Conservancy is visible throughout the park, from trail rehabilitation to wildlife protection and habitat restoration. The Conservancy is dedicated to enhancing the visitor experience and providing a deeper connection to the park through outdoor programs, volunteering and wilderness services. Thanks to dedicated supporters, the Conservancy has provided more than $75 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Donate now or learn more at www.yosemiteconservancy.org or call 1-800-469-7275.

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Volunteer in Yosemite

Over 9,300 volunteers donated more than 177,000 hours of service to Yosemite last year, restoring native habitat, working in visitor centers, serving as camp hosts, studying wildlife, cleaning up litter and more. Would you like to serve? We have group and individual volunteer opportunities, both short term and long term. Learn more at www.nps.gov/yose/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm or call the volunteer office at 209/379-1850.

Park Planning Updates

Join park and partner staff to learn ongoing plans and projects at a free monthly public open house! An open house will be held on May 29 and June 26, from 1-4pm in the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Auditorium. Park entrance fees will be waived for those attending the open house!