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

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

The Express Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttle runs daily during summer every 20 minutes.
Did you enter the park via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West)? Did you notice the many acres of burned trees along the roadside? See page 18 for the feature story on the 2013 Rim Fire.

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

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

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 at 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 more!)

Ask a Climber Program
Do you see the climbers? How do they get up there? How do they get down? Where do they sleep? Join Yosemite Climbing Rangers at the El Capitan Bridge to answer any questions you may have about climbing in Yosemite. Use telescopes and climbing equipment to get a glimpse into the world of climbing on the big walls of Yosemite Valley. Ask A Climber is also for climbers! Come congregate at the bridge to swap stories, talk safety, and get information about climbing routes. Daily 11am to 3pm.

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
After a day filled with exploring, relax and enjoy a show at the Yosemite Theater. Yosemite Theater presents a variety of experiences, including plays based on some of the park’s most colorful characters, inspiring films, and celebrations of Yosemite’s culture and history. See pg. 6 for shows and start times.

Get Outdoors With Yosemite Conservancy
Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing Yosemite’s wonders. Spend a weekend observing the lives of birds 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 yosemit-conservancy.org/adventures or 209/379-2317 ext. 10 to find your adventure today.

Yosemite Art Center Workshops
Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching and fun art workshops. Workshops are held Monday-Saturday in Yosemite Valley. There is a registration fee of $10 per visitor. The Art Center also offers weekly Children’s Classes, Beginner Art Workshops, and Family Craft Programs. Register in advance by calling 209/372-1442. Workshops take place at the Yosemite Art Center located next to the Village Store. Art supplies, gifts and original art are available for purchase. Open daily 9am to 4:30pm (closed at 12pm for lunch). See pg. 6 for details.

Volunteer with a Ranger
Yosemite’s vegetation communities need your help! Come volunteer as a Habitat Protector of Yosemite (HaP€y) and perform ecological restoration projects in Yosemite Valley. This is a family friendly activity where you can take an active role in protecting and preserving our natural resources with a Park Ranger. Meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center at 9am every Wednesday. Wear closed-toe shoes, long pants, bring water, snacks, and sun protection. Please call ahead for group sizes larger than ten. For more information, contact the volunteer office at 209/379-1850 or check out the website at http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hapy.htm.

Water Bottle Refilling Stations!
Drought conditions are upon us and water conservation efforts are appreciated. There are seven water bottle filling stations located in Yosemite Valley. Indoor stations can be found at Degnan’s Deli and Yosemite Lodge, and outdoor filling stations can be found at Yosemite Lodge Gift Shop, in front and back of the Village Store, the Curry Village Meadow Deck Grill, and the Yosemite Valley Stables. All outdoor filling stations are marked with a water drop sign, and have a variety of fill ports. Please help us reduce waste by encouraging refilling water bottles with delicious Yosemite tap water!
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 a 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.

Mirror Lake and Mount Watkins. Photo by Christine White Loberg
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.

Tuolumne Grove

Tuolumne Grove 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 Lickens 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, Lambert 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 7am to 9pm 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:

• There are more than 67 miles of trails within the Rim Fire burned area.
• Large trees and woody debris within the interior of the Rim Fire perimeter continued to smolder throughout the winter into 2014. Traces of smoke from the Rim Fire may still be visible during your visit this summer.
• Much of the Rim Fire burned through vegetation that also burned in the 1996 Ackerson Fire, which until the Rim Fire had been the largest fire in the park’s recorded history.

Want the Guide on your Apple or Android device?

Get the App!

Search NPS-Yosemite in app stores or at nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit to download the official park app for up-to-date listings of programs, services, an interactive map, and more!
Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park

The Incomparable Yosemite Valley

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

Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery. 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 has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. See page 17 for a list of hikes.

Bicycling
Several miles of bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Lodge or Curry Village. Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths. Bike rentals are available from 8:30am to 8pm, last bike goes out at 6:45pm.

Tours
Tours listed 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. Check Tour & Activity Desk for times.

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

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

Mule & Horseback Rides
Horse or mule rides begin at the stable near North Pines Campground. Stable hours are 7am to 5pm 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 the isles or wander through outdoor and indoor exhibits detailing Yosemite’s geologic story.
- Tunnel View, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

Hours listed are core hours for facilities and may be extended during periods of peak visitation. Check local postings for changes to hours of operation.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

- Yosemite Lodge
  - Dining Room
    - Breakfast: 7am to 10am
    - Lunch: 11:30am to 3pm
    - Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm
  - Sunday Brunch: 7am to 10:30am
- Ahwahnee Breakfast Bar
  - 7am to 10:30am
- The Ahwahnee Bar
  - 11:30am to 5:30pm
- Yosemite Lodge
  - Food Court
    - Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am
    - Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm
    - Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm
  - Pizza Deck
    - 12pm to 10pm
- The Ahwahnee
  - Mountain Room Restaurant
    - 5:30pm to 9pm

Visit Yosemite National Park

Experience the beauty and wonder of Yosemite National Park. Discover its rich history, stunning landscapes, and diverse wildlife. Plan your visit today!

Yosemite National Park

Experience Your America

Spectacular vistas and the heart of the park
Yosemite Valley

Where to go and what to do

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

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

Yosemite 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.

Yosemite Theater
Yosemite Theater offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances. Revel 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 works of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other artists. See page 6 for photo walk times. For more information, call 209/372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com.

Exhibits
July 27 - September 13 “Spectrum Analysis: Yosemite in Color”
The Sierra Nevada was long ago consecrated The Range of Light by John Muir – a sobriquet that has both motivated and defined artistic and environmental enterprise. As the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th passed, photographers valiantly captured the famous “light” of the Sierra on glass plates and film, often times risking physical health, financial stability and conjugal solidarity due to their long journeys and new betrothal to the landscape. Today photographers are engaging with this landscape more than ever through the medium of color film and digital capture, framing a more dynamic Yosemite that exposes a vibrancy that should surely be noted as an equal to the mythological light of the park. And while the photographer’s means of arrival are perhaps more convenient and efficient in the present day, the journey is no less exciting or revealing than it was 150 years ago. As part of The Ansel Adams Gallery’s continuing celebration of the 150th anniversary of The Yosemite Grant, we are thrilled to present the exhibition, Spectrum Analysis: Yosemite in Color, as it looks at those working contemporarily with the park’s full palette at their disposal. Included in the exhibit will be work by Michael Frye, Keith S. Walklet, Jeff Grandy, William Neill, Mike Osborne, Charles Cramer and more.

LeConte Memorial Lodge
LeConte Memorial Lodge is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10am to 4pm. Free evening programs, scheduled for 8pm, are held on Friday and Saturday. Programs held in the building are limited to 50 guests. The Memorial has a library, children’s corner, and exhibits. The Memorial is located at shuttle stop #12, across from the Housekeeping Cabins. Call 209/372-4542 for program details.

Yosemite Village

Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore
The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center is open from 9am to 5pm, and bookstore hours are 9am to 7pm. The visitor center is 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.

Yosemite Films
Two films are shown daily, every half hour beginning at 9:30am (except on Sundays, when the first showing is at noon). The last film is at 4:30pm. “Ken Burns’ Yosemite – A Gathering of Spirit” plays on the half hour and The Spirit of Yosemite” plays on the half hour. Valley Visitor Center Theater.

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

Indian Cultural Exhibit
Open daily from 9am to 5pm. Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite’s Mwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

Yosemite Museum Store
Open daily from 9am to 5pm. The store offers books and traditional American Indian arts, crafts, jewelry, and books.

Yosemite Museum Gallery Exhibit
“Yosemite, the Grand Experiment”
This Yosemite Museum exhibit commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Yosemite Grant with a display of artwork, documents and artifacts from that early period. Photographs and paintings of visitors and the landscape, including some of the earliest images, will be included from the park’s museum collection. The Grand Register of the Cosmopolitan Saloon will be on view. The Edmonds report, a review of the proposed land grant sent days before the grant legislation was signed into law in 1864, will be on loan from the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Digital slide shows will supplement the paintings and photographs on exhibit. A video presentation will feature scholars discussing the importance of the grant, and the influence of painting and photography on the movement to protect public lands and remarkable scenery. An audio kiosk will feature quotations from a variety of historic figures from Yosemite’s past. This project was made possible through the generous support of Yosemite Conservancy donors. Yosemite Museum Gallery, June 3 through September 30, open daily 9am to 5pm; from October 1 through October 18, open daily from 10am to noon and 1pm to 5pm.

Yosemite RenaissanceXXX Call for Entries
Now in its 30th year, Yosemite Renaissance is an all-media, juried, fine art competition & exhibition on the theme of Yosemite and the environment of the Sierra Nevada. It is open to all living artists. $4,000 in awards. Entry is $40, deadline November 15, 2014. For a prospectus and entry form visit: http://www.yosemiterenaisance.org. Deadline for entries: November 15, 2014.

Yosemite Renaissance is a non-profit organization which encourages diverse interpretations of Yosemite in the visual arts.
Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures (YC)

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

July 31 - Aug 3
Ice, Wind, & Fire
Aug 7 - Aug 10
Hike Half Dome: The Easy Way
Aug 7 - Aug 10
Painting Tuolumne Meadows on Plein Air
Aug 9 - Aug 10
Tuolumne Meadows Birds & Blooms
Aug 14 - 17
iSyll Glacier Backpack Trek
Aug 16 - Aug 17
Yosemite Photography: High Country Workshop
Aug 21 - Aug 24
Backpack Half Dome via Clouds Rest #2
Aug 23
North Dome & The Natural Arch Day Hike
Aug 24
Go Climb a Peak: Summit Mt. Hoffmann
Aug 28 - Aug 31
Backpack Half Dome via Clouds Rest #3

Find more information about these programs at www.yosemiteconservancy.org/outdoor-adventures or call 209-379-2317, ext. 10. Camping and park entry are included, additional lodging options available. Custom adventures can also be arranged for individuals, families and groups. Proceeds support Yosemite Conservancy’s work in the park, preserving and protecting Yosemite for generations to come.

Yosemite Art Center Workshops (YC)

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

August 16 - August 17
Paint the Park Fast and Loose: Watercolor, David Peterson

August 18 - August 23
Capture the Beauty: Watercolor, Osamu Saito

August 24
Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey

August 28 - August 31
Tuolumne Meadows Birds & Blooms

August 9 - 10
Ice, Wind, & Fire

September programs will be announced. For more information, please call 209/379-2317, ext. 10. Proceeds available upon advanced request.

Yosemite Theater (YC)

Yosemite Theater offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances. Ravel to park ranger Shalton Johnson and other performers bring the park’s adventures to life!

Tickets $8 adults, $4 children.

Sunday (May 4 - Sept 28)
Yosemite Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Soldier, 1903

Monday (June 2 - Sept 8)
Filmmaking on the Edge

Monday (April 28 - Sept 30)
Yosemite Search and Rescue

Thursday (July 3 - Oct 15)
Muir Among the Animals

Friday & Saturday (July 4 - Oct 25)
Return to Balance: A climber’s Journey

Yosemite MountaINEERING School (YMS)

YMS offers rock climbing classes, guided climbs, custom backcountry trips, and daily hikes. Experience the park with a professional guide. 209/372-8344. Open daily from 8:30am to 12pm and 1pm to 4:30pm.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
Christian Sabbath Worship at Lower Pines Amphitheater, Saturday May 24 – August 30, 4:30pm (No Sunday School)
5:15pm (Sunday School Available)
11am (Memorial Day through Labor Day ONLY - No Sunday School)
6:30pm Evening chapel service
THURSDAY MID-WEEK SERVICE 7pm in the chapel, 209/372-4831, Pastor Brent Moore Resident Minister

ROMAN CATHOLIC
Mass: 10am, Lower Pines Amphitheater
SUNDAY SERVICES
10:15am (Sunday School Available)
11am (Memorial Day through Labor Day ONLY - No Sunday School)
6:30pm Evening chapel service
THURSDAY MID-WEEK SERVICE 7pm in the chapel, 209/372-4831, Pastor Brent Moore Resident Minister

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY IN THE NATIONAL PARKS
Sabbath: 10am Lower Pines Amphitheater, Saturday May 24 – August 30, 4:30pm (No Sunday School) 5:15pm (Sunday School Available)
SUNDAY SERVICES
10:15am (Sunday School Available)
11am (Memorial Day through Labor Day ONLY - No Sunday School)
6:30pm Evening chapel service
THURSDAY MID-WEEK SERVICE 7pm in the chapel, 209/372-4831, Pastor Brent Moore Resident Minister

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

AAAC American Alpine Club
DNC DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.
NPS National Park Service
SC Sierra Club
TAAG The Ansel Adams Gallery
YCS Yosemite Conservancy
YMS Yosemite MountainaINEERING School

Programs offered for a fee
**SUNDAY**

7:00pm - **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE** (except August 6) 1 hr. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) $5

7:30pm - **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE** (August 4 only) 1.5 hrs. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) $5

8:00pm - **NIGHT PROSPECTORS** (except August 5 and August 30) 1.5 hrs. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) $5

**MONDAY**

1:00pm - **YOUTH ART SESSION** 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC)

8:00pm - **WIE WILD ONES** 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DNC) $5

**TUESDAY**

8:00pm - **WEE WILD ONES** 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DNC) $5

**WEDNESDAY**

1:30pm - **TALL TALES IN TALL MOUNTAINS** 1 hr. Interactive Storytelling with Steven Riley and Ty Cooney. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DNC) $5

1:00pm - **TALL TALES IN TALL MOUNTAINS** 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC/AAC)

8:00pm - **LEE TERRKELSEN, NATURE FILM MAKER: HIKE FROM SEQUOIA TO MT. WHITNEY** 1.5 hrs. Live film - Ansel Adams. (DNC) $5

8:00pm - **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE** (August 7) 1.5 hrs. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) $5

**THURSDAY**

1:00pm - **YOUTH ART SESSION** 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC)

8:00pm - **WEE WILD ONES** 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DNC) $5

**FRIDAY**

1:30pm - **TALL TALES IN TALL MOUNTAINS** 1 hr. Interactive Storytelling with Steven Riley and Ty Cooney. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DNC) $5

1:00pm - **TALL TALES IN TALL MOUNTAINS** 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC/AAC)

8:00pm - **LEE TERRKELSEN, NATURE FILM MAKER: HIKE FROM SEQUOIA TO MT. WHITNEY** (August 22 only) 1 hr. Live film - Ansel Adams. (DNC) $5

8:00pm - **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE** (August 8 only) 1.5 hrs. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) $5

**SATURDAY**

1:30pm - **TALL TALES IN TALL MOUNTAINS** 1 hr. Interactive Storytelling with Steven Riley and Ty Cooney. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DNC) $5

1:00pm - **TALL TALES IN TALL MOUNTAINS** 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC/AAC)

8:00pm - **LEE TERRKELSEN, NATURE FILM MAKER: HIKE FROM SEQUOIA TO MT. WHITNEY** (August 22 only) 1 hr. Live film - Ansel Adams. (DNC) $5

8:00pm - **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE** (August 8 only) 1.5 hrs. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) $5
Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park

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 5:30pm to 9:30pm, 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 Visitor Center at Hill’s Studio

Open 8:30am to 5pm. 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.

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

Blacksmith Shop

Smell the burning coal, hear the ring of the hammer on the anvil, and watch a demonstration of the ancient art of blacksmithing. 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 1.5 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.

Trails 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 9am, and the last shuttle leaves the grove at 6pm, 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.

Mariposa Grove Museum

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

Dogs/bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Grove.

Big Trees Tram Tour

Please visit the Big Trees Ticket Kiosk at the Big Trees Gift Shop, in the Mariposa Grove, for departure times. Open from 9:30am to 5pm.

Mariposa Grove Museum

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

Horsedrawn stage rides with Burrel "Buckshot" Maier

NPS Photo
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WAWONA &amp; MARIPOSA GROVE</th>
<th>GLACIER POINT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00am to 2:00pm Horse-Drawn Stage Rides 10 min each Purchase tickets in Wawona Fargo Office in Pioneer Yosemite History Center $5 adult / $4 child 3-12 (NPS)</td>
<td>2:00pm Ranger Walk - Short Walk to a Great View of El Capitan 1.5 hrs. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am to 1:00pm 2/2 to 5/0pm Blacksmithing Demonstration Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS)</td>
<td>6:30pm GLACIER POINT STARGAZING TOUR 4.5 hrs. Tickets and information available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove 1.5 hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS)</td>
<td>6:30pm Step Into Yosemite's Past: Walk to McHugh Meadow 2 hrs. Meet at phone booth in Bridalveil Campground. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove 1.5 hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS)</td>
<td>7:00pm Sunset Ranger Talks (August 25 &amp; September 1 only) 10 min. Glacier Point raking, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30pm Evening Programs (except Sept 25) 1 hr. Meet at The Redwoods In Yosemite Vacation Home rentals office on Chilnualna Falls Rd. For questions please call 855-290-3499 (NPS)</td>
<td>7:15pm Sunset Ranger Talks (August 4 &amp; 11 only) 30 min. Glacier Point raking, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am 2:00pm to 4:00pm Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (except August 13 &amp; 27) 10 min each Purchase tickets in Wawona Fargo Office in Pioneer Yosemite History Center $5 adult / $4 child 3-12 (NPS)</td>
<td>8:00pm Staryy Seress Gennaya Wawona 1.5 hrs. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information at any tour &amp; activity desk. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am to 3:00pm Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (except August 28) 10 min each Purchase tickets in Wawona Fargo Office in Pioneer Yosemite History Center $5 adult / $4 child 3-12 (NPS)</td>
<td>9:00am GLACIER POINT STARGAZING TOUR 4.5 hrs. Tickets and information available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am to 1:00pm 2/2 to 5/0pm Blacksmithing Demonstration Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS)</td>
<td>6:30pm Ranger Walks - Cliffs and Domes 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove 1.5 hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS)</td>
<td>8:00am Summer Yosemite Insectra August 8 Glacier Point amphitheater. Cancelled if overcast. (NPS)</td>
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<td>10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove 1.5 hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS)</td>
<td>8:00pm Sunset Ranger Talks (August 1 &amp; 15 only) 30 min. Glacier Point raking, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30pm Tom Bopp Performing at the Piano 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Historical programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC)</td>
<td>7:15pm Sunset Ranger Talks (August 4 &amp; 11 only) 30 min. Glacier Point raking, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30am Wawona History Stroll 1 hr. Wawona Hotel Fountain (NPS)</td>
<td>8:00pm GLACIER POINT STARGAZING TOUR 4.5 hrs. Tickets and information available at any tour &amp; activity desk. (NPS)</td>
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<td>10:00am Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (except August 10) 1.5 hrs. Lower Grove Trailhead (NPS)</td>
<td>6:30pm Ranger Walks - Blacksmithing Demonstration Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS)</td>
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</table>
Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, and Crane Flat

Tuolumne Meadows

Please walk on official trails to protect fragile meadow ecosystems.

Dogs, bicycles, and strollers are only allowed on roads open to vehicles. Day-hikers and backpackers must go to the bathroom at least 100 feet away from water, trail, and camp areas; bury human waste six inches deep; pack out toilet paper and all other trash. Trail loops from water, trail, and camp areas; bury human waste six inches deep; pack out toilet paper and all other trash.

Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center
Visitor Center hours are 9am to 6pm. Park Restrooms (Public Access Defibrillation) and rent bear canisters. 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 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.

Parsons Memorial Lodge Summer Series
Allows 30 minutes walking time to Parsons Memorial Lodge from either Lembert Dome parking area or in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail.

Ranger Programs
Ranger walks and evening programs are available at Hetch Hetchy, Hodgdon Meadows, Crane Flat, and White Wolf. Check local postings for details or call 209/379-1899.

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 3.5 miles north of Crane Flat and 4.5 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 posted B-10.

Tuolumne Grove
The trailhead 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.

Two trails, both flat and 3/4-mile long, lead to this historic area accessible only by walking. Parsons Memorial Lodge is open from 10am to 4pm. Please note, beginning August 11, the trail just east of the Visitor Center that crosses the meadow to the bridge below Soda Springs will be closed Monday through Thursday for ecological restoration.

Tuiolunme Meadow, White Wolf, and Crane Flat

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 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.

Parsons Memorial Lodge Summer Series
Allows 30 minutes walking time to Parsons Memorial Lodge from either Lembert Dome parking area or in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail.

Ranger Programs
Ranger walks and evening programs are available at Hetch Hetchy, Hodgdon Meadows, Crane Flat, and White Wolf. Check local postings for details or call 209/379-1899.

Merced Grove
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### Yosemite Guide  July 30, 2014  - September 2, 2014

**POST OFFICE**
- **White Wolf Bookstore**
- **Tuolumne Meadows Lodge Store**
- **Big Oak Flat Visitor Center Store**
- **Mountaineering School and Sport Shop**

**GAS STATIONS**
- **Tuolumne Meadows Campground**
- **Crane Flat Campground**

**FREE SHUTTLE BUS**
- **Talus Trailhead**
- **Tuolumne Meadow Shuttle**

**TUOLUMNE MEADOWS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Coffee with a Ranger - The Dawn Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Hike - Lembert Dome: 3 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 8 miles. Dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Parsons Summer Series Program: August 17 only. 7 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Poetry Workshop - The Grace of Their Intentions: Creatures in the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Talk - Welcome to Tuolumne: 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Parsons Summer Series Program: August 24 and 31: 5 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Indians in the High Country (August 24 and 31): 2 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk - Welcome to Tuolumne: 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00pm</td>
<td>Campfire 1 hr. Dawn Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk - Domes and Meadows: 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Hike - All the Way to Tuolumne Fall: (August 19 &amp; 26 only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Coffee with a Ranger - except August 13: 1 hr. Dawn Circle in Tuolumne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Botanical Walk: August 5: 2 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Walk - Bears and Other Wildlife: 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Walk - Welcome to Tuolumne: 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Talk - The Wild and Sonora Tuolumne River: (except August 23)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>Campfire 1 hr. Dawn Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15am</td>
<td>Ranger Walk - Birds: (except August 13) 2 1/2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Walk - Bears: August 20: 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Talk - Welcome to Tuolumne: August 13: 15 mins. Tuolumne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Walk - The Secret Life of Plants 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic</td>
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<td>Ranger Talk - Welcome to Tuolumne: August 13: 15 mins. Tuolumne</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk - Sunset: 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Campground.</td>
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<td>Ranger Campfire Program (except August 23) 2 hrs.</td>
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<td>Ranger Walk - A Place Long Traveled: History of Tuolumne</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ranger Walk - High Country Hawk Watch: 3 hrs. Gaylor Lakes trailhead.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ranger Walk - Birds: August 13: 2 1/2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Ranger Walk - Bears: (except August 13) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Parsons Summer Series Program: August 27: 8 hrs.</td>
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<td>Ranger Walk - Welcome to Tuolumne: 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows</td>
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For a complete list of activities, please visit the Yosemite National Park website or contact the Tuolumne Meadows Information Station or by calling 209/379-1899.
Become a Junior Ranger

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. Ask a Ranger! What President signed the Yosemite Grant Act on June 30, 1864, setting aside Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove for special protection?__________________________________________________

5. 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: ___________________________________________________

6. Write down something you learned from a ranger or Indian Cultural Demonstrator._____________________________________________________________

7. Think about this. Why do people work to protect national parks?_____________________________________________________________

8. 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.

Yosemite National Park offers a 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

All issue illustrations by Tom Whitworth
Follow these steps to earn your Junior Ranger badge.

Yosemite Guide  July 30, 2014  - September 2, 2014

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, garbage 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.

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

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

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

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

Backpackers: Save Your Food, Save A Bear
Bear resistant food canisters are 2.7-pound containers that can be used to store five or more days of backpacker food when meals are carefully planned. Canisters have an inset lid that bears are unable to open. When used correctly, bears learn that—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 roadsides to beg for food, endangering both coyotes and drivers.

How to Store Food

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>When to Store</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Vehicle</td>
<td>When locked 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 close your car of food varmings, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats. Never leave unattended food wrapped outside the outside of a vehicle or a pickup trunk bed. Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Campsite or Tent Cabin</td>
<td>Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even check food lockers to see if they’re secured. Keep food lockers closed and latch 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>Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backpacking in the Wilderness</td>
<td>Bears resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Do not 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

**Experience Your America** Yosemite National 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 2014, May 23 through October 14, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 pre-season lottery permits have already been issued for 2014. 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 lots will be accepted 2 days prior to the desired hiking date between midnight and 3pm. 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.

**Traffic Safety**

- Many accidents occur because visitors leave a trail or pathway. Off trail travel can be extremely dangerous, especially next to waterways where rocks have been polished.
- Scrabbling on boulders, wading across streams or rivers, and travelling beyond railings or other barriers may put you one slip away from a fatal accident.
- Avoid shortcuts. Visitors commonly get "slogged out" after cutting across trails.

**Around Water**

- 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.
- Mountain water is very cold, no matter what time of year it is. Yosemite’s rivers are fed by melted snow, and even expert swimmers can quickly lose their strength in the icy water.
- Ask a ranger about safe places to swim.
- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.
- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

**Stay on Trail**

- Many accidents occur because visitors leave a trail or pathway. Off trail travel can be extremely dangerous, especially next to waterways where rocks have been polished.
- Scrabbling on boulders, wading across streams or rivers, and travelling beyond railings or other barriers may put you one slip away from a fatal accident.
- Avoid shortcuts. Visitors commonly get "slogged out" after cutting across trails.

**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.
- Keep safety in mind as you explore the park.

**Altitude Sickness**

- Altitude sickness can develop at altitudes as low as 8,000 feet. Descend to a lower elevation should it develop.
- Know the weather and prepare for changes. Retreat from exposed mountaintops, high ridges, and open granite slabs at the first sign of thunder or lightning.
- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Admire wildlife from a distance to prevent injury to you or animals.

**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.

**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, Half’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 percent 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 person plus $5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Check the park’s website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740. 40 percent 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.

**Bats**

- Keep the doors of your room closed at night to prevent bats from entering. Bat exclusion devices (chimney caps) are available for purchase at the park store.
- If you see a bat on the ground or acting sick, do not approach it and contact the wildlife management department at 209/372-0476.

**Giardia and Iodine**

- Avoid dehydration or heat exhaustion; carry and drink plenty of water, at least three liters of water per person, more on hot days, and bring high-energy food.
- Carry a map and know where you are at all times, with a planned route.
- Altitude sickness can develop at altitudes as low as 8,000 feet. Descend to a lower elevation should it develop.
-知所適応する。避難施設を用意する。雨が降っているときには、避難施設を用意することが重要です。そのときには、避難施設を用意することが重要です。
- 知所適応する。避難施設を用意する。雨が降っているときには、避難施設を用意することが重要です。そのときには、避難施設を用意することが重要です。
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 (Stoneham Bridge to Sentinel Beach) and the South Fork of the Merced River in Wawona is open from 10am to 6pm 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.

Bicycling

Each season, plants are crushed from bicycle activity. Biking is not allowed to travel off paved trails. Mountain biking opportunities are available in designated areas outside of Yosemite.

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 amphibians, non-preserved fish eggs or roe is prohibited.

Pets

Keep in mind, daytime temperatures can reach above 100° F. Make sure to keep your pet cool and well-hydrated. In Yosemite, pet owners have a few rules to follow:
- Pets are only allowed in developed areas and on roads and paved bike paths. Pets are not allowed anywhere in the Mariposa or Merced sequoia groves. They are not allowed on trails, in wilderness areas, or where signs are posted prohibiting them.
- Pets must be on a leash (6 feet or less) or otherwise physically restrained.
- For the courtesy of others, human companions are responsible for cleaning up and depositing pet feces in trash receptacles.
- Pets are not allowed in any lodging facilities or other buildings within the park and are not allowed in some campgrounds.
- Pets may not be tied to an object and left unattended.

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park’s most important guardians. With nearly 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
- Campiing outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities
- Possessing or using marijuana, including medical marijuana
- Operating an unmanned aircraft system (“drone”)

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.

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.
Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park

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

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

Hours:
7am to 7pm Pacific time (November through February)
7am to 9pm 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 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 359/683-4636. 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.

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 campsites. There are no hookups 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 10pm to 6am.
- 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 5pm and 10pm. 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.

Camping in Yosemite National Park*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAMPGROUND</th>
<th>OPEN 2014 (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 19 – Dec 1</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Pines</td>
<td>Mar 26 – Oct 27</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Pines</td>
<td>Apr 2 – 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 RVs</td>
<td>No trailers</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>25 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>April 17 – Oct 7</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Creek</td>
<td>June 13 – Sep 22</td>
<td>25 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>25 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>May 23 – Oct 15</td>
<td>25 ft</td>
<td>27 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamarack Flat</td>
<td>May 23 – Oct 1</td>
<td>No RVs</td>
<td>No trailers</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wolf</td>
<td>May 28 – Sep 1</td>
<td>27 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>June 6 – Sep 8</td>
<td>No RVs</td>
<td>No trailers</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>June 13 – Oct 15</td>
<td>24 ft (limited)</td>
<td>20 ft</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows</td>
<td>June 6 – Sep 28</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 / 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 to 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 to 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 to 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 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall F</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7 miles round-trip, 5 to 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 miles (via Mist Trail) or 16.3 miles (via John Muir Trail) round-trip, 10 to 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 to 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>10 miles full loop, 5 to 7 hours</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>3.5 miles round-trip, 1.5 hours</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinging Bridge Loop</td>
<td>Wawona / Pioneer Yosemite Hist. Gr. Parking Area</td>
<td>4.75 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taft Point</td>
<td>Sentinel Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentinel Dome</td>
<td>Sentinel Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soda Springs / Parsons Lodge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lambert Dome</td>
<td>Lambert Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>1.5 miles round-trip, 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Muir Trail through Lylet Canyon</td>
<td>Dog Lake Parking Area</td>
<td>8 miles one-way, 4 to 8 hours</td>
<td>Easy, 200-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Lake</td>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Group Campground</td>
<td>6.8 miles round-trip, 4 to 5 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tioga Road</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lukens 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, 3,000 to 4,000-foot loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>Lukens Lake Trailhead</td>
<td>10.5 miles one-way, 5 to 9 hours</td>
<td>Moderately Strenuous, 3,000 to 4,000-foot loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Clouds Rest</td>
<td>Tenaya Lake</td>
<td>10 miles one-way, 10 to 12 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Featured Hike

Cathedral Lakes (moderate)

Begin along the Tioga Road, at Cathedral Lakes trailhead, 112 mile west of the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center, Shuttle Stop #7

Trail Description:

7 miles/11.3 km round-trip, 1,000 ft/305 m elevation gain; 4 to 6 hours round-trip.

Begin your hiking adventure in Tuolumne Meadows on this High Sierra trail that will lead you to the glittering alpine lakes located beneath the picturesque Cathedral, Echo and Frestred peaks. The Cathedral Lakes are considered to be among some of the most scenic lakes in Tuolumne Meadows.

The trail climbs steadily to Upper Cathedral Lake. Near the top of the climb, it passes a spur trail to Lower Cathedral Lake (0.5 mile to lake). The return hike follows the same route.

Be prepared for mosquitos and masy conditions. Please walk on official trails to protect the fragile meadow ecosystems.

This is one of the busiest trails in the Tuolumne Meadows area. Since parking at the trailhead is limited, consider taking the free shuttle bus.

Things to know before you go:

- Bring and consume plenty of water and snacks along the way as you hike, keeping you hydrated and replenishing your energy.
- Wear appropriate, sturdy hiking footwear and bring extra layers for changing weather conditions (raingear, warmer layers, etc.).
- Check the weather before you go and be prepared for any changes. Retreat from exposed mountaintops, high ridges, and open granite slabs at the first sign of thunder or lightning.
- Carry a flashlight with extra batteries, a first-aid kit, and any additional medications you might need during the hike.
It was a day like any other in the remote and rugged foothills of California’s Sierra Nevada. A late summer heat wave was baking much of the state, worsening an already record-breaking drought, when the fire started in the tinder-box landscape. Although initially thought to be caused by a campfire, the investigation still continues.

The fire was first reported at 3:25pm on Friday, August 17th and within 4 days, 100,000 acres of national forest adjacent to Yosemite National Park, an area three times the size of Oakland, was ablaze. The Rim Fire would burn 257,314 acres, destroy 112 structures, cost over $127 million to fight, and become the third largest wildfire in California history.

What was damaged from the fire? About 38% of the vegetation in the Rim Fire burned very intensely. While these areas will have the greatest amount of ecological change, it doesn’t mean they’ll be permanently damaged. Though some areas outside of Yosemite National Park sustained heavy damage, the area burned within the park seemed to fair better. Bulldozers are often used to create fire breaks to try to stop advancing flames, particularly when roads or natural barriers aren’t available. Fortunately, firefighters in Yosemite were able to use both the Tioga and Big Oak Flat Roads as fire control lines, preventing long term scars on the land that are sometimes left by bulldozers. One of the biggest concerns for firefighters and park managers was to protect the ancient giant sequoia trees in the Tuolumne and Merced Groves. Firefighters worked around the clock to remove live and dead vegetation from around the groves. Their efforts helped to save these age-old sentinels from the flames of this intense fire.

How did earlier fires make a difference? When the Rim Fire spread into Yosemite, it was critical to keep it out of the Merced River drainage. If this had happened, the fire could have potentially threatened the communities of El Portal, Foresta, Yosemite Valley, Yosemite West and Wawona. Firefighters were able to control the fire before it entered the Merced drainage by working in places where a series of earlier fires and vegetation thinning had reduced the fuel load adjacent to the Big Oak Flat and Tioga Road near Crane Flat. These thinned out areas formed a ‘catcher’s mitt’ around the edge of the fire where firefighters could safely use burning operations to keep the fire out of the Merced drainage. As the Rim Fire approached park facilities and residences in Hodgdon, it again moved into vegetation that had been previously treated with prescribed fire and thinning, which slowed the fire, allowing firefighters to safely defend this small community.

Rock formations combined with sparse fuel left over from past lightning fires which had been managed in the wilderness limited growth of the Rim Fire to the north.

What can we learn from this fire? National parks are valuable natural laboratories where scientists can study nature’s processes in action. When dramatic events such as the Rim Fire occur, there is an incredible amount we can learn. Scientists will be studying how and why the Rim Fire behaved as it did, as well as how the ecosystem recovers. The results of this work will be posted on the park website, www.nps.gov/yose.

As a natural process, fire has many ecological benefits, but it can also threaten life or property. Removing vegetation from around the structures in Hodgdon, before the fire, made it possible for firefighters to protect them. This is what homeowners are asked to do, too, and is why 100 feet of defensible space is required in California – it really makes a difference.

Where can I see the effects of the fire?

**Tioga Road:** Nearly every turn-out and wayside along the road will provide a view of where the Rim Fire burned in the park from the Tuolumne Grove parking area to White Wolf.

**White Wolf Campground:** Near the White Wolf camping area, the fire footprint will be most visible by hiking out to Harden Lake. You will also see the fire effects from many other natural fires that have occurred in the area.

**Highway 120 (Big Oak Flat Road):** Driving from the park boundary to Crane Flat, you will see evidence of how the fire burned more intensely in some areas and less intensely in others. This variation creates a mosaic effect with many different kinds of habitat which enhances biodiversity.

**Evergreen Road:** This route also shows variation in fire intensity. The firefighting effort to protect valuable recreational facilities is most evident between Evergreen Lodge and Hetch Hetchy. Examples of hazardous tree removal are also evident here. Whenever you explore a recently burned area, be sure you understand the hazards you may encounter and take precautions. Safety always comes first.
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.

Volunteer For Your Park!
Over 10,100 volunteers donated more than 170,000 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.

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