Seasonal Highlights

There’s more! Check out the Calendar Section for a schedule of special park programs...

**Celebrate Earth Day, National Junior Ranger Day, National Volunteer Week, and National Park Week with us!** There’s a lot going on in the park, check out the special Calendar Section of this Guide to help you make the most of your visit!

### Yosemite’s 125th Birthday!

On October 1, 2015, the park will commemorate the 125th anniversary of the establishment of Yosemite National Park. President Benjamin Harrison signed the legislation, thereby creating the nation’s third National Park. The establishment of Yosemite National Park preserved over 1,500 square miles of land including Tuolumne Meadows, the park’s high country, Hetch Hetchy, and lands surrounding Yosemite Valley. Check out the special pull out anniversary calendar section included in this issue, or check the Anniversary Website at www.nps.gov/yose/anniversary for information about events happening all year.

### Visit the Yosemite Museum

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

### Stroll with a Ranger

Learn about Yosemite Indians by joining a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily throughout the park on a variety of topics including waterfalls, trees, bears, geology, Yosemite Indians and more.

### Walk to a Waterfall

Spring is a great time to visit. Yosemite’s waterfalls boom in early spring, and lower elevation wildflowers are a riot of color.

Yosemite Falls by Starlight (as of March 1) = $15
Individual $25
Motorcycle (as of March 1) = $15
Covers one or two people on a single motorcycle; valid for seven days
In a bus, on a bicycle, horse, on foot

### 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 starting times.)

### 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. Some have fees, some are free. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 5 and 6.)

Yosemite Art Center Workshops

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching and fun art workshops. Workshops are held Monday through Saturday in Yosemite Valley. There is a registration fee of $10 per workshop per person. To register in advance, call 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 page 6 for details.

#### Fee Changes

As of March 1, 2015, a new fee structure has been implemented for Yosemite National Park. Entrance fees are as follows:

**Entrance Fee (Passes good for 7 days)**

**Vehicle**
- April 2015 – October 2015 = $30
- November 2015 – March 2016 = $25
- April 2016 – October 2016 = $30
- November 2016 – March 2017 = $25
- April 2017 = $30 year round

**Motorcycle** (as of March 1) = $15
Covers one or two people on a single motorcycle; valid for seven days

**Individual** (as of March 1) = $15
In a bus, on a bicycle, horse, on foot

**Campground Fees**: (As of March 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Site</th>
<th>April 2015 – October 2015</th>
<th>November 2015 – March 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tent Sites</td>
<td>$10 increase to $20</td>
<td>$5 increase to $25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 person site</td>
<td>$10 increase to $20</td>
<td>$5 increase to $25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse Sites</td>
<td>$25 fees all increase to $30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp 4 and Backpackers Camps</td>
<td>$5/person increase to $6/person</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information on fee changes, please visit our website at nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/fees.htm

*Interagency Senior/Interagency Access Pass holders receive a 50% discount on all sites (except group sites)
Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

**Entrance Fees**
*Effective March 1, 2015, entrance fees have changed in Yosemite National Park. Please visit nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/fees.htm for more information.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
<th>Valid for 7 days</th>
<th>April-October 2015</th>
<th>$30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycle</td>
<td>$15/motorcycle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Valid for 7 days</td>
<td>$15 in a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Pass</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>Valid for one year in Yosemite.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interagency Annual Pass</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interagency Senior Pass</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>(Lifetime) For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interagency Access Pass</td>
<td>(Free)</td>
<td>(Lifetime) For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interagency Military Pass</td>
<td>(Annual)</td>
<td>For active duty U.S. military and dependents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reservations**

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

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

**Regional Info**

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

Highway 120 West
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce
800/459-9320 or 209/962-0429

Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/446-1333
www.tcb.com/highway-41

Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
559/683-4636
www.yosemitevisitor.com

Highway 132/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
209/878-3329

Highway 140/49
Calf. Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5359 or 209/724-8154
www.yosemite-gateway.org

Mariposa County Visitor Center
886/425-3366 or 209/966-7081

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

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

**Yosemite Valley**

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

The Tioga and Glacier Point Roads are closed until plowed. For current road and weather information, please call 209/372-0200.

Photo by Christine White Loberg
Glacier Point Road

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and Yosemite’s high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. When the road is snow-covered and conditions permit, a system of cross-country ski tracks are maintained on it. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), then turn left onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating view looking down 3,214 feet into Yosemite Valley.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park’s south entrance station. When weather permits, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is a short drive from Wawona. The grove road is closed to vehicles after the first big snowstorm, making it a peaceful hike or snowshoe for winter adventurers. 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.

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

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

Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

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

Hetch Hetchy

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. The area’s low elevation makes it a good place to hike in autumn and winter. The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles (1 hour 15 minutes) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from April 1st to April 30th from 8am to 7pm, then May 1st through Labor Day 7am to 9pm. Vehicles and/or trailers over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not permitted on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.

Did You Know?

- Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias were originally protected as a state park. An act of congress signed by President Abraham Lincoln designated these icons to be preserved for public enjoyment. This landmark legislation planted the seed of the national park idea.
- Yosemite National Park originally included Devil’s Postpile National Monument and the Minarets, located on the east-side of the park.
- The original boundary of Yosemite National Park featured straight east-west and north-south lines. Since then, the eastern boundary of the park has been adjusted to follow the highest ridge, or divide, of watersheds that feed the Merced and Tuolumne River drainages.
Yosemite Valley

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

The base of Lower Yosemite Fall is an easy walk from shuttle stop #6. (Both Upper and Lower Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow return.) This hike features educational exhibits and a picnic area, and is accessible to the mobility impaired.

Although Yosemite Falls dries up by the end of the summer, Bridalveil Fall is a year-round waterfall that you can visit by car on your way into or out of the Valley. Winds swirling about the cliff lift and blow the falling water in a delicate free-fall.

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. Note: Delicate meadows are easily damaged by trampling, so please stay on footpaths.

Half Dome, Yosemite’s most distinctive monument, dominates many 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, Glacier Point, and Olmsted Point are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome. A permit is required to summit Half Dome. Information about Half Dome permits is available on our website at www.nps.gov/yose.

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

To experience the Valley on foot, stop by a visitor center for a trail map and information on program topics and visitor services available. (Reservations are required)

Experience 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.

Like to bike? Several miles of bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from the Yosemite Lodge or Curry Village Bike Stands. (Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

How about a trail ride? Horse or mule rides begin at the stable near North Pines Campground. Open March 27, conditions permitting. Stable hours are 8am to 5pm, with 2 hour rides at 9am, noon, and 3pm. Information: 209/372-8344 to inquire about our exciting adventures!

Camping in Yosemite

Reservations are required March 15 through November for Yosemite Valley’s car campgrounds and summer through fall for Tuolumne Meadows. Campground reservations are available in blocks of one month at a time, up to five months in advance, on the 15th of each month at 7 am Pacific time. Be aware that nearly all reservations for the months of May through September and for some other weekends are filled the first day they become available, usually within seconds or minutes after 7 am! To make reservations, visit www.recreation.gov (recommended) or call 877/444-6777

Some first-come, first-served camping is available in Yosemite Valley at Camp 4, and outside the Valley, conditions permitting.
Events and Programs

**Yosemite Valley**

- **April 8 – May 19, 2015**

**Where to go and what to do**

**Friday, April 10, 2015**

- **9:00am** Yosemite Day Hike
- **11:00am** Evening Program
- **2:00pm** Ranger Walk – Bears
- **6:00pm** Ask John Muir

**Saturday, April 11, 2015**

- **7:00am** Junior Ranger Talk
- **8:00am** Yosemite Plants Walk
- **10:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **2:00pm** Junior Ranger Talk
- **2:30pm** Art Workshop
- **3:00pm** Art Workshop
- **7:00pm** Evening Program

**Sunday, April 12, 2015**

- **8:00am** Ask A Climber
- **11:00am** Naturalist Stroll
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **2:00pm** Art Workshop
- **5:00pm** Evening Program

**Monday, April 13, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **12:00pm** Naturalist Stroll
- **3:00pm** Art Workshop
- **5:00pm** Evening Program

**Tuesday, April 14, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Wednesday, April 15, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Thursday, April 16, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Friday, April 17, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Saturday, April 18, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Sunday, April 19, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Monday, April 20, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Tuesday, April 21, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Wednesday, April 22, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Thursday, April 23, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Friday, April 24, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Saturday, April 25, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Sunday, April 26, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Monday, April 27, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Tuesday, April 28, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Wednesday, April 29, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Thursday, April 30, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Friday, May 1, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Saturday, May 2, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Sunday, May 3, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Monday, May 4, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Tuesday, May 5, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Wednesday, May 6, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Thursday, May 7, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Friday, May 8, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Saturday, May 9, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Sunday, May 10, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Monday, May 11, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Tuesday, May 12, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Wednesday, May 13, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Thursday, May 14, 2015**

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- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Friday, May 15, 2015**

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- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Saturday, May 16, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Sunday, May 17, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Monday, May 18, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

**Tuesday, May 19, 2015**

- **9:00am** Art Workshop
- **11:00am** Camera Walk
- **1:00pm** Art Workshop
- **4:00pm** Evening Program

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

**Yosemite Valley**

- **YoM 102**
- **YOSEMITE VALLEY WAWONA**
- **WCY**
- **NP**
- **NPS**
- **TAAG**
- **DN**

**Wawona**

- **YOSEMITE VALLEY WAWONA**

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, or pick up an updated guide online at www.nps.gov/yose/accessibility. For information on accessibility, call a park Accessibility Coordinator at nps or yosemite valley visitor center and the mariposa group of giant sequoias. Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.
**Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore**
Visitor center and bookstore hours are 9 am to 5 pm, just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #5 and #9). The center offers information, maps, and books in the attached bookstore. Explore the exhibit hall and learn how Yosemite's spectacular landscape was formed, how people have interacted with it through the centuries, how wildlife adapts and survives, and how your national park continues to evolve.

**YOSEMITE FILMS**
Two films are shown daily, every half hour beginning at 9:30am (except on Sundays, where the first showing is at noon). The last film is at 4:30pm. "Ken Burns' Y osemite: A Gathering of Spirit" plays on the hour and The Spirit of Y osemite" plays on the half hour. Valley Visitor Center Theater.

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

**INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT**
Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite's Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

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

**Yosemite Renaissance XXX Exhibition**
**ART EXHIBIT**
Yosemite Renaissance is an annual exhibit, now in its thirtieth year, which encourages diverse interpretations of Yosemite and the environment of the Sierra Nevada. Its goals are to bring together the works of serious contemporary artists that do not simply duplicate traditional representations; to establish a continuum with past generations of Y osemite artists; and to help re-establish visual art as a major interpretive medium of the landscape and a stimulus to the protection of the environment. For this year's competitive exhibit there were approximately 750 entries, resulting in an exhibit of 49 paintings, graphics, photographs and 3-dimensional pieces by artists throughout the country. Through May 10.

**Wilderness Permits**
Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center will open May 1st and be open daily from 8am to 5pm. Wilderness permits, bear canisters, and a variety of maps and books are available. Until May 1st, wilderness permits and bear canisters can be obtained at the Y osemite Valley Visitor Center seven days a week from 9am to 5pm.

**The Ansel Adams Gallery**
In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9am to 5pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, other photographers and artists, camera walks, workshops, and classes. Activities are listed on the front porch. Call 209/372-4413, or visit anseladams.com.

**LeConte Memorial Lodge**
LeConte Memorial Lodge is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am until 4 pm. Free evening programs are scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 pm. Seating is available for 50 guests. The Memorial, located at shuttle stop #12, has a natural history library, children's corner and library, and historical exhibits. Call 209/ 372-4542 for program details.

**Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures**
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.

**April 10 – April 12: Learning to Lead and "Leave No Trace" Trainer Backpack**

**April 11: Yosemite Day Hike: World-Famous Waterfalls and Hidden Gems**
April 25: Strings in Spring: Violinst Martin Chalifour at Yosemite Valley Chapel
April 26: Yosemite Day Hike: The Song of Birds
April 30 – May 6: Yosemite Photography: Spring Full Moon Tour
May 3: Yosemite Photography: Magic of the "Monocle"
May 9: A Walk Through the Dogwoods: Yosemite Valley's West End
May 14 – May 17: Yosemite Photography: Capture the Spring Light
Find detailed information about these programs at yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or call 209/379-2317 x10.

**Yosemite Search and Rescue**
Mondays (May 4 – Oct 5)

**Yosemite Theater (YC)**
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, available at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Bookstore.

**April 6 – April 11: Steve Carlin**
Catch Yosemite's Light in Watercolor
April 13 – April 19: Penny McCrea
Painting with Pastels
April 20 – April 25: Juan Peña
Magic of Watercolor
April 27 – May 3: Natalie Chan
Essence of Y osemite with Charcoal/Graphite
May 4 – May 9: Frank Eber
Atmospheric Watercolor
May 11 – May 16: Geri Medway
Painting a Treasure: Yosemite in Watercolor
May 18 – May 23: Sonja Hamilton
Watercolor Spring in Yosemite

**April 10 – June 20**
Yosemite Search and Rescue
Mondays (May 4 – Oct 5)

**Yosemite Theater (YC)**
Yosemite Theater is located in Yosemite Village next to the Village Store

**Yosemite Concessions**

**Capture the Spring Light**
May 14 – May 17

**April 26**

**Yosemite Photography: Magic of the "Monocle"**
May 9

**Atmospheric Watercolor**
Frank Eber

**March Full Moon Tour**
May 3

**Painting a Treasure**
Sonja Hamilton
May 18 – May 23

**April 6 – April 11**
Steve Carlin

**Magic of Watercolor**
Penny McCrea
April 13 – April 19

**April 20 – April 25**
Juan Peña

**May 4 – May 9**
Frank Eber

**May 11 – May 16**
Geri Medway

**May 18 – May 23**
Sonja Hamilton

**Watercolor Spring**
Sonja Hamilton

**Yosemite Search and Rescue**
Mondays (May 4 – Oct 5)

**Ask John Muir**
Tuesdays (April 14 – June 23)
Meet Galen Clark: Yosemite’s First Guardian

**Thursdays (April 9 – June 18)**
Meet John Muir

**Fridays & Saturdays (April 10 – June 20)**
Yosemite Search and Rescue
Mondays (May 4 – Oct 5)
### Beyond the Valley

#### Wawona & 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. The road to the Grove typically closes in November or December. Visitors can walk, ski, or snowshoe when the ground is snow-covered, access is limited to foot, snowshoe, or ski.

#### 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.

#### 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. When the ground is snow-covered, access is limited to foot, snowshoe, or ski.

#### Big Oak Flat
**Big Oak Flat Information Station**
Starting May 8th, the bookstore (only) will be open daily from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch. The Visitor Center offers general information and a variety of books and maps. Wilderness permits can be obtained by self-registration on the porch of Hill’s Studio. Please come prepared with proper food storage.

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

### 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, ski, or snowshoe 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 in the area so 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
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 moderately strenuous trail leads downhill from the parking area into the grove and drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. There is no potable water in the area so be sure to bring drinking water with you.

### Tuolumne Meadows
**Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center**
The center is scheduled to open along with the Tioga Road. Please check the website for hours of operation. Wilderness permits, bear canisters, information, books, and maps are available. The center is located just as you turn onto the Tuolumne Lodge Road.
Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park

Protecting yourself...

Keep safe while exploring your park.

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

## Around Ice and Water
Stay off of frozen lakes, rivers and streams and away from swift waters. Keep children from wandering near these natural hazards. 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. 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. Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

## Avoid Hypothermia
Sierra winters are comparatively mild, but temperatures can drop into dangerous territory with little warning. Winter sports require a high degree of preparation and training.

- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.
- Avoid the combination of wetness, wind, and cold.
- Know symptoms of hypothermia.
- Carry emergency fire-starting materials
- Avoid dehydration; carry and drink plenty of water at least three liters of water per person, and bring high-energy food.

## 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 purification. 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
In both leading to the park are two-lane, arrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by obeying 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.

## Hiking, Backpacking, Backcountry
Snow Travel, and Rock Climbing
It is starting to get dark early, which means temperatures will drop fast. Prepare yourself with a headlamp and extra layers, even on day hikes. Also, trails may be closed after the first winter storm, due to other ice or rockfall hazards. For your safety, please respect these closures and do not bypass them. There are a few more reminders before you hit the trails.

- Tell someone your plan and when you hope to return.
- Be prepared for icy travel before conditions arise. Bring crampons, ice axe, climbing skins, and other traction devices.
- Carry a map and compass 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.
- Know the weather and prepare for changes. Snow can occur with little warning, and can make route finding very difficult.
- Avoid dehydration; 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.

## Avoid shortcuts. Visitors commonly get you one slip away from a fatal accident. Railings or other barriers may put you at risk.

## Stay Safe
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 traveling beyond railings or other barriers may put you one slip away from a fatal accident. Avoid shortcuts. Visitors commonly get “laced out” after cutting across trails.

## Wilderness Permit Details
Wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Please see pages 6 and 7 of this Guide for more information about obtaining wilderness permits. For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of $5 per permit plus $5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation.

Go to www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits for trailhead availability and more information on how to make a reservation. Reservations can be made by fax, phone or mail starting December 1. To make a reservation by phone, call (209) 372-0740 Mon-Fri from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Information about Half Dome permit reservations is available on our website at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.

More Information
• www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm
• Leave No Trace www.lnt.org
• Friends of Yosemite Search and Rescue www.friendsofyosar.org

## Half Dome Permit Information
The Half Dome Cables are down for the season. They will be put back up May 22, 2015 conditions permitting. Permits are required 7 days a week when the cables are up. The pre-season lottery application period for 2015 permits begins March 1, 2015 and ends March 31, 2015. To apply for permits visit recreation.gov or call 877/444-6777. More information about the Half Dome permit process is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm.

## 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 to humans via the droppings, urine, or saliva of infected rodents. Not all rodents are infected with hantavirus, but infected rodents have been found throughout the US. In California, deer mice are the primary carrier of the virus that causes HPS. You may come into close proximity to rodents during your visit, so it is important you take steps to protect yourself from HPS. HPS risk is greater inside of buildings or other enclosures where deer mice are present.

If staying in guest lodging, please tell the housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice in your accommodations. Do not clean up the area yourself. Keep doors to guest lodging shut and do not bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container. If you are camping and backpacking, do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings. HPS often begins with flu-like symptoms such as aches, fever, and chills one to seven weeks after exposure, progressing to cough and difficulty in breathing. Seek medical attention immediately if you experience these symptoms, and mention any potential rodent exposures to your physician.

For more information on hantavirus and other environmental safety hazards visit: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/safetysum.htm

## Avoid contact with wildlife and keep food and trash stored properly.
Wild animals in Yosemite can transmit numerous diseases, including plague, rabies, and hantavirus. Keeping your distance and your food from wildlife not only protects them, it also protects you from injury and exposure to diseases.

If you encounter a mammal, particularly a raccoon, skunk, fox, coyote, or bat, that is behaving erratically, don’t touch the animal. Instead, report the sick animal to a park employee. In addition to keeping bears away, storing your food properly also reduces your exposure to rodents and their fleas, which may carry plague.
...and Yosemite

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

Keep Yosemite’s Black Bears Wild and Alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

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 grapes. Their incredible sense of smell allows them to detect things we can’t, which helps them find food—a black bear can smell a dead deer three miles away. To top it off, bears have excellent vision and can see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

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

You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away: Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there is more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear. If you see a bear anywhere else, consider yourself lucky—but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses packed 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.

Please report bear sightings by calling 209/372-0322.

Yosemite Guardians

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
• 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.

How to Store Food

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

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

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Fall</td>
<td>Bridalveil Fall Parking Area</td>
<td>0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6</td>
<td>1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock</td>
<td>Camp 4 near Shuttle Stop #7</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 2-3 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Upper Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7.2 miles round-trip, 6-8 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror Lake (via seasonal lake)</td>
<td>Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernal Fall Footbridge</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>1.4 miles round-trip, 1-2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate, 400-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Vernal Fall</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>3 miles round-trip, 2-4 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>same as above</td>
<td>3 miles round-trip, 5-6 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous 1,600-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Closed in winter)</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>
125 Years of Yosemite National Park

Inspiring Generations: 1890 - 2015

John Muir's love affair with Yosemite echoes the awe and affection we hold for this magnificent park. On October 1, 1890, an act of congress signed into law by President Benjamin Harrison protected over 1500 square miles of land comprising most of Yosemite National Park as we know it today. Without this act the beauty, serenity, and adventure that can be found among Yosemite's high alpine meadows, tall granite peaks, booming waterfalls, and pristine rivers may have been lost.

“Here is calm so deep, grasses cease waving...the flowers bloom in our bodies as well as our souls, and every bird song, wind song, and, tremendous storm song of the rocks in the heart of the mountains is our song, our very own...”


A chaotic time in Yosemite's past spurred Muir's wrenching observation. The survival of many Giant Sequoias was threatened by more and more logging companies coming into the mountains. The high country was being overgrazed every year as flocks of sheep were driven to graze in fragile mountain meadows. Muir's contention was that the Sierra landscape had been so closely grazed that much of it looked like the inside of a heavily used corral. His excursions into the mountains, coupled with his ever-watchful eye, convinced him that the lost vegetation led to rainstorms washing untold tons of soil into the formerly clear-running mountain rivers of his beloved Yosemite.

“...When I had last seen the Yosemite National Park region, the face of the landscape in general was broken and wasted, like a beautiful countenance destroyed by some dreadful disease.”


Yosemite's fate hung in the balance as land outside Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove was increasingly altered and impacted. And, in true Sierra fashion, what tipped the scales in favor of preservation was a legendary camping trip in 1889. Muir, the famous persuader, took Robert Johnson, editor of Century Magazine, out to experience Yosemite. Muir bent his ear by campfire and waterfall to bring Johnson to the cause. The big-time editor used his connections with railroad and agricultural powers along with the voice of his popular magazine for their campaign to protect the park. A few voices became many and the first steps towards better protection began. Yosemite National Park became an official national park in 1890, 125 years ago this year.

The establishment of Yosemite National Park provided for the protection of special places such as Tuolumne Meadows, Hetch Hetchy Valley, and the Merced and Tuolumne Groves of Giant Sequoias. Scores of spectacular peaks and domes and multitudes of streams that fed the Merced and Tuolumne Rivers were all protected on that historic day in 1890. Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias remained under the protection of the state of California as designated in the Yosemite Grant Act of 1864. John Muir continued his labor of love for Yosemite with the goal of unifying all of Yosemite as a national park. Muir’s vision was realized on June 11, 1906 when the state of California ceded Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove to the federal government.

As we commemorate this historic anniversary, we honor the stewardship of so many who were dedicated to Yosemite's future. We have learned a lot in the past 125 years about how to care for this revered park. We look ahead to the next 125 years knowing there will be new challenges in preserving the natural wonders entrusted to our care. It is important to remember that each of us can capture John Muir's spirit and be a Yosemite advocate.

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Supporting Your Park
Providing for Yosemite’s Future

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

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

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

Delaware North
Delaware North (DN) operates hotels, restaurants, sightseeing tours, recreational activities, interpretive programs, stores, shuttle and service stations in the park under contract with the U.S. Department of the Interior. DN encourages its employees to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure.

For more information and employment opportunities with Delaware North 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 $92 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Donate now or learn more at www.yosemiteconservancy.org or call 800/469-7275.

Celebrating Yosemite’s 125th Anniversary!
On October 1, 2015, the park will commemorate the 125th anniversary of the establishment of Yosemite National Park. President Benjamin Harrison signed the legislation, thereby creating the nation’s third National Park. The establishment of Yosemite National Park preserved over 1,500 square miles of land including Tuolumne Meadows, the park’s high country, Hetch Hetchy and lands surrounding Yosemite Valley.

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