Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Valley Shuttle System

The Yosemite Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7am to 10pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run daily every 20 to 30 minutes, depending on time of day. See schedule posted at shuttle stops. If the event of snow and ice, busses may suspend service to shuttle stops #15 - #19.

Service to shuttle stops #15 - #19 may be interrupted due to snow and ice.

Pardon our dust! Shuttle service and traffic circulation may change due to road repairs, conditions permitting. Expect detours and delays. Ask at the Visitor Center for the most current routes.

US Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Yosemite National Park
Yosemite, CA 95389

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Yosemite National Park
Yosemite, CA 95389
Things to Do

Winter Activities: Exploring Yosemite in Winter

Winter Sports
CRANE FLAT SNOW PLAY AREA
A snow play area is open at Crane Flat Campground in winter when enough snow is present. Please do not sled in or onto roadways.

YOSEMITE SKI AND SNOWBOARD AREA
The Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area (YSSA) opens on December 15, weather and road conditions permitting. Live information on winter sports is available by calling 209/372-8430, recorded information is available at 209/372-1000. Lift Tickets: 8:30am to 4pm. Lift Operations: 9am to 4pm. Ski School Desk: 8:30am to 4pm. Tubing: 11:30am to 1:30pm and 2pm to 4pm. Rental Shop: 8:30am to 4:30pm. Cross Country Ski Center: 8:30am to 4:30pm. Skiers Grill: 8am to 4pm. Snowflake Room: 8am to 4pm, Friday to Sunday and holidays only. Sports Shop: 9am to 4pm.

YSSA A-FRAME
Open 9am to 4pm, seven days a week when the Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area (YSSA) is open, beginning December 15, weather and road conditions permitting. Wilderness permits for the Glacier Point area, Ostrander Ski Hut check-in and cross-country skiing permits are available at the YSSA A-Frame. The center is open throughout the year. Proceeds from Yosemites natural and cultural history, every day. See page 5 for additional information, check local listings at YSSA A-Frame. You may also check the current trail conditions, or see page 7 for a list of popular Yosemite Valley day hikes. Programs and Guided Adventures
NATURALIST PROGRAMS
Naturalists give talks and walks about Yosemite’s natural and cultural history, weather, road conditions permitting. For additional information, check local listings at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and hotel tour desks. TOURS
The Valley Floor Tour is a 26-mile, two-hour, guided tour of Yosemite Valley. It departs several times daily from Yosemite Valley Lodge, weather permitting. Call 209/372-1240 or inquire at the Tour and Activity Desk in the Yosemite Valley Lodge between 7:30am and 3pm. YOSEMITE MOUNTAINEERING SCHOOL
Provides outdoor adventures for people of all experience levels. We are here to help you enjoy Yosemite outdoor sports safely, and responsibly. Join one of our group cross country skiing classes or schedule a custom outing designed specifically for your group. We offer professional guides for cross country skiing and snowshoeing, as well as hiking, and rock climbing (depending on weather). Reservations required for most activities, please call 209/372-8344 or email yms@aramark.com.

ICE RINK AT HALF DOME VILLAGE
Take the shuttle to Half Dome Village for a one-of-a-kind ice skating experience with a spectacular view of Half Dome. The ice rink will be open daily, conditions permitting, from 12pm to 2:30pm, 3:30pm to 6pm, and 7pm to 9:30pm. On weekends and holidays, the ice rink is open from 8:00am to 11am, in addition to the daily hours.

WALKING AND HIKING
Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. Stop by Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for trail maps and current trail conditions, or see page 7 for a list of popular Yosemite Valley day hikes.

Outside Yosemite Valley
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.

TUOLUMNE GROVE
The trailhead for this grove of approximately 25 sequoias is near the Big Oak Flat and Tioga road intersection at Crane Flat. The moderately strenuous trail leads downhill from the parking area into the grove and drops 900 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.

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 short walk over ground trail, ski, or snowshoe into the grove. The trail drops 1.5 miles, making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. There is no potable water 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.

Great Things Are Happening
In The Mariposa Grove!
Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park’s largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees. The Restoration of the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias Project is now underway! A temporary closure of the grove is expected to remain in place until Spring, 2018. The restoration project will improve the habitat and restore the hydrology of the Mariposa Grove and improve visitors’ experience and enjoyment of the grove. Trails will be improved providing universal access along with improved restroom facilities. The Mariposa Grove Road is closed to all public access due to restoration, including bicycle and pedestrian traffic. Hiking trails within the grove are also closed.

ICE RINK AT HALF DOME VILLAGE
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ADVENTURE WITH YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY (YC)
Experience the park in a new way with Yosemite Conservancy’s naturalist-guided explore the winter landscape during snowshoe hikes, bird-watching walks, and more. Sign up for a scheduled Outdoor Adventure, or contact us to plan a Custom Adventure. See page 6 for details.

YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY OUTDOOR ADVENTURES (YC)
Yosemite Conservancy’s year-round, naturalist-led, Outdoor Adventures offer something for every park explorer. This winter, join one of our guides for a snowshoe hike to immerse in the seasonal scenery and learn about natural history. Upcoming outings include:

Jan 6 Snowshoe Yosemite Valley Vistas atop Dewey Point
Jan 20 Snowshoe Yosemite Valley Vistas atop Dewey Point
Jan 24 Snowshoe Yosemite Winter Ecology and Survival at Tuolumne Grove
Feb 3 Snowshoe Yosemite Valley Vistas atop Dewey Point
Feb 10 Snowshoe Yosemite Winter Ecology and Survival at Tuolumne Grove

To learn more and register, visit bit.ly/yosemite-adventures or call 209/379-3217 x10. Park entry and camping are included with your registration; other lodging options are available. Custom Adventures can be arranged for individuals and groups. Proceeds from Yosemite Conservancy’s programs help preserve and protect the park.

TAKE A PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS
Enjoy the beauty of Winter Light in Yosemite. Join a photography expert from The Ansel Adams Gallery and learn how to best capture the landscape. Several classes are offered weekly. Custom photography guides available upon request. Learn more and sign up at The Ansel Adams Gallery.
Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees
Non-commercial car, pickup truck, RV, or van with 15 or fewer passenger seats: Valid for 7 days
(No per-person fee)
Vehicle: Valid for 7 days
$30/Vehicle
Motorcycle: Valid for 7 days
$25/Motorcycle
Individual: Valid for 7 days
$15 (in a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse)
Yosemite Park Pass: $50
Valid for one year in Yosemite.
Interagency Annual Pass: $80
Valid for 1 year at all federal recreation sites.
Interagency Senior Pass: $80
(Lifetime) For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.
Interagency Annual Senior Pass: $20
(Annual) For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.
Interagency Access Pass (Free)
(Lifetime) For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
Interagency Military Pass (Free)
(Annual) For active duty U.S. military and dependents
Interagency 4th Grade Pass (Free)
(Annual) For fourth graders and their families. Must present paper voucher.

Reservations
Campground Reservations
877/444-6777
www.recreation.gov
Lodging Reservations
888/843-8869
www.travelyosemite.com
Group Sales Office: 888/339-3481

Regional Info
Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)
www.yarts.com
Highway 120 West
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce
800/448-9120 or 209/962-0429
Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/446-1333
www.tcvb.com
Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
559/633-4636
www.yosemitebayyear.com
Highway 122/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
209/878-3329
Highway 140/49
California Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104
www.californiawelcome.com
Mariposa County Visitor Center
866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081
Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau
209/742-4567
www.mariposacounty.org
Highway 120 East
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake
Visitor Center, 760/937-6629

Experience Your America    Yosemite National Park
Interagency Senior Pass $80
Visitor Center, Highway 120 East
www.homeofyosemite.com
209/742-4567
Yosemite Mariposa County
866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081
Mariposa County Visitor Center
www.yosemite-gateway.org
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104
California Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104
www.californiawelcome.com
Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)
www.yarts.com
Yosemite National Park
Transportation System (YARTS)
www.yarts.com
Yosemite Area Regional Info
Reservations
ACCESS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
For a complete list of accessible services, recreational opportunities, and exhibits, pick up an updated Yosemite Accessibility Guide which is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm, or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 for more information.

- Accessible parking spaces are available just west of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. To reach these, enter the Valley on Southside Drive. Turn left on Sentinel Drive. Turn left on Northside Drive, and follow the blue and white signs.
- Sign Language interpreting available upon request. Contact Deaf Services at 209/379-5250 (voice), 209/222-3944, or at yose_deaf_services@nps.gov. Two weeks advance notice preferred.
- Assistive Listening Devices available upon advance request, inquire at a visitor center. Audible tours are available for the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias (closed until Summer 2017). Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.

WINTER WEATHER AND DRIVING IN YOSEMITE
The Tioga, Glacier Point, and Mariposa Grove Roads are closed each year from after the first significant snowfall to late May or early June. Other roads are generally plowed and maintained, but can close or present delays during storms. Motorists are advised to always carry chains and check weather and road conditions before travel. Icy and wet roadways can exist throughout the park! To check road conditions, call 209/372-0200 for roads inside the park and 800/427-7623 or visit www.dot.ca.gov for highways connecting to Yosemite, outside the park.

Chain Control Information:
You must have tire chains or cables in your possession when entering a designated chain control area, even if you’re driving a four-wheel drive or rental vehicle.

- **R1** - Chains Required, unless you are driving a car, pickup truck, or SUV weighing less than 6,000 pounds AND your auto or pickup has must snow tires installed. (look for “M+S” on the wall of the tire)
- **R2** - Chains Required, unless you are driving a car, pickup truck, or SUV weighing less than 6,500 pounds AND your car has snow tires installed on all four wheels AND has four-wheel drive or all-wheel drive engaged.
- **R3** - Chains Required, on ALL vehicles (chains on 2 wheels of a 4-wheel drive).
Yosemite Valley

...is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. It is open year round and can 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 in summer. 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 and winter scenery. Admire El Capitan, the massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the Valley by foot, car or with a tour, the scenery will leave you in awe and eager to see what’s around the next corner.

Glacier Point

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and Yosemite’s high country, is located 30 miles (1 hour) from Yosemite Valley. The road stays open as weather permits, however, overnight parking along it ends October 15. Glacier Point Road closes beyond the Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area after the first significant snow fall. 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, when the road is open, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating view looking down 3,214 feet into Yosemite Valley.

Wawona and The Mariposa Grove

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park’s south entrance station. The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is currently closed for restoration, see page 1 for more details. 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 Area

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 two steep miles 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.

Tioga Road and Tuolumne Meadows

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 feet 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 (1¼ hour) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from 8am to 5pm through March 31. Self-registration permits for the Hetch Hetchy trailheads only are available at the kiosk. 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.
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 hour and The Spirit of Yosemite plays on the half-hour, in the Theater behind the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

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

The Ansel Adams Gallery
December 6 - February 6
Open 9am-5pm
Will close at 3 pm Dec 24
Closed Dec 25
January 1 – February 6
Open 10am-5pm

Exhibit
November 12 – January 7
Anne Larsen and John Sexton
Exploring Light

This will be a unique two-person exhibition by noted fine art photographers Anne Larsen and John Sexton. They have been sharing their passion for photography, and exploring the land with their large format cameras, for over twenty years. They both have a passion for the sheer beauty of the black and white silver gelatin print hand-printed in the traditional wet darkroom.

NEW EXHIBIT
January 8 - February 24
Looking West: Photographs by Ansel Adams

Ansel Adams is a distinct paradigm of the American West from his wild adventures to his modern methods and embrace of technology, along with his romanticizing of the open spaces and their vernacular — and all the way down to his bolo and white stetson. He came of age in San Francisco during the early parts of the twentieth century, a time that saw two competing worlds clash as the final days of a frayed frontier gave up ground to an increasingly mechanized world. As a curious witness, it is no less important that Ansel found his artist’s voice by interpreting this old landscape through a recent advancement in technology — the camera. He never relented documenting the architecture, people and mountains as they fluxed and flexed, while he walked a figurative tightrope between these old and new worlds — both of which he recognized as being significant to society.

Looking West will honor the determination of spirit of Ansel Adams within his unique place in history by displaying a variety of hand made photographs from his lifetime. These images will showcase a wide range of subjects and materials and will include early works from the 1920’s to others completed towards the end of his life, as well as pieces from some of his last organized portfolios. This exhibition will open at The Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village on January 8th, 2018 and run through February 24th, 2018.

YOSEMITE VALLEY INFORMATION, ART, AND EXHIBITS

YOSEMITE VALLEY VISITOR CENTER AND BOOKSTORE
The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore are open from 9am to 5pm. They are located west of the main post office, near 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.

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT
Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite’s Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present. The Indian Cultural Museum is open from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch.

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YOSEMITE ART CENTER (YC)
CLOSED for move to Happy Isles Nature Center until Spring, 2018.
**Events and Programs**

**Yosemite Valley**

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<th>Event</th>
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<td>Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5 (NPS)</td>
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<td>1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Meet at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel.</td>
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*Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families.*
Services in Yosemite

Food and Drink

YOSEMITE VILLAGE

Degnan’s Kitchen
7am to 8pm
The Loft at Degnan’s
Saturday and Sunday: 2pm to 9pm

THE MAJESTIC YOSEMITE HOTEL

Dining Room
Breakfast: 7am to 10am
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm
Dinner: 5pm to 8:30pm
Reservations and appropriate attire are respectfully requested: 209/372-1489

Sunday Brunch: 7am to 2pm
Dec 16, Dec 18, Dec 20, and Dec 22

Dinner on: Dec 10, Dec 12, Dec 14, Dec 16, Dec 18, Dec 20, and Dec 22

Gas Stations

EL PORTAL
8am to 5pm
Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

BIG TREES LODGE SERVICE STATION
4:30pm to 8pm
Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.

NO GAS IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

Post Offices

YOSEMITE VILLAGE
Main Office
Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
Saturday: 10am to noon

El Portal
Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 2:45pm

YOSEMITE VILLAGE
Monday - Friday: 10:30am - 1:30pm

WAWONA
Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm
Saturday: 9am to noon

Books, Gifts, and Apparel

YOSEMITE VILLAGE
Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore
at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
9am to 5pm

Yosemite Museum Store
9am to 5pm
The Ansel Adams Gallery
Dec 6 - Feb 6, open 9am-5pm
Closed Dec 24 at 3pm
Closed December 25
Jan 1 – Feb 6, open 10am to 5pm

Village Store
Barn to 8pm

YOSEMITE SKI AND SNOWBOARD AREA

Tour and Activity Desks
YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE
7:30am to 7pm (after hours service available at Front Desk)

Recreation

HALF DOME VILLAGE
Ice Skating Rink
See Page 1 for details.

YOSEMITE SKI AND SNOWBOARD AREA
Opens Dec 15, conditions permitting. See Page 1 for details.

General Services

Laundry (Housekeeping Camp)
8am to 10pm

Yosemite Village Garage
8am to 5pm, Towing available 24 hours. Propane available until 4:30pm.

Medical Clinic (Yosemite Valley)
Monday - Friday, 9am to 5pm
Closed weekends and federal holidays.
For emergency care after 5pm, CALL 9-1-1.
Medical Clinic Phone: 209/372-4637

Religious Services

CHURCH OF CHRIST (Non-denominational)
El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am
Info: 209/379-2100

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Pastor Brent Moore - Resident Minister
209/372-4831 • www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org
www.yosemite/valleyChapelWeddings.org
all for wedding information and availability
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLES/LIGHT SERVICE
SUNDAY DECEMBER 24, 2017 at 4:00pm

SUNDAY Chapel Services: 9:15am year round
SUNDAY Evening Services: 6:30pm
WEDNESDAY Evening Mid-Week Service: 7pm
THURSDAY Bible Study, call the office for location.

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS
OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS
Sunday, 10am, East Auditorium behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, shuttle stops #599.
Rectory Phone: 209/372-4729

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Yosemite Valley Chapel
Tuesday and Thursday nights only, 7:30 - 8:30pm
Oakhurst Hotline: 559-683-1662

LIONS CLUB
First and Third Thursday of each month at noon,
The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Call 209/372-4475

PHONE DIRECTORY

El Portal: 209/372-1489
YOSEMITE VALLEY: 209/372-1425
YOSEMITE VILLAGE: 209/372-4475
YOSEMITE SKI AND SNOWBOARD AREA: 209/372-4637
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK: 209/375-1425
YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY: 209/372-4729
YOSEMITE VILLAGE: 209/372-4475
YOSEMITE WEEKEND LODGES: 209/372-4475
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK: 209/375-1425

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK:
www.nps.gov/yose
YOSEMITE VILLAGE:
www.yosemiteValleyChapelWeddings.org
www.yosemitevalleychapel.org
Permit Information

Winter Camping, Hiking, and Wilderness Use

Wilderness Permits

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 to check trailhead availability and for more information on how to make a reservation. Reservations can be made by fax, phone or mail starting November 13, 2017. To make a reservation by phone, call 209/372-0740, Mon-Fri from 8:30am to 4:30pm. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm, the Leave No Trace website at www.lnt.org, or the Friends of Yosemite Search and Rescue website at www.friendsofyosar.org.

YOSEMITE VALLEY

Wilderness permits are required year-round. Permits for Yosemite Valley trailheads are available at the Visitor Center daily from 9am to 5pm. Bear canisters are also available for rent. For more information on wilderness travel and safety please see page 6.

BIG OAK FLAT

Self-registration wilderness permits for the Crane Flat area and Tioga Road trailheads are available at the kiosk. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

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>Lowery Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6</td>
<td>1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock</td>
<td>Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 2-3 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Upper Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7.2 miles round-trip, 6-8 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 2,700-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror Lake (A seasonal lake)</td>
<td>Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernal Fall Forbords</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #15</td>
<td>1.4 miles round-trip, 1-2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate, 405-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada 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>5 miles round-trip, 3-6 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Closed in winter)</td>
<td>Southside Drive</td>
<td>6.8 miles one-way, 5-4 hours one-way</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 3,300-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>

*Camping

Upper Pines, Camp 4, Wawona, and Hodgdon Meadow are open year-round.

CAMPING RESERVATIONS

In Yosemite Valley’s car campgrounds, reservations are recommended December through February, and required March through November. Outside the valley, reservations are required summer through fall for Hodgdon Meadow, Crane Flat, Wawona, and half of Tuolumne Meadows. All other campgrounds (except group and stock campgrounds) are first-come, first-served. Campground reservations are available up to five months in advance, on the 15th of each month at 7 am Pacific time. Log onto the website or call as soon as possible as some campgrounds fill within a few minutes of the opening period. For campground reservations, visit www.recreation.gov (recommended) or call 877/444-6777 or TDD 877/833-6777 or 518/885-3639 from outside the US and Canada.

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

Call Center: 877/444-6777 or TDD 877/833-6777 or 518/885-3639
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.

Yosemite campgrounds, but not all of them. There are no hookups in Yosemite Valley, but there are sanitary dump stations in Yosemite Valley (all year), and summer only in Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows.

General Camping Information

Services
• All sites include picnic tables, firepits with grills, and a food locker (33" x 45" x 18"). See page 9 for food storage regulations.
• Shower and laundry facilities are available year-round in Yosemite Valley.
• 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 10 pm to 6 am.
• Where permitted, pets must be on a leash and may not be left unattended.

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

Protecting yourself...

Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

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

Winter in Yosemite

Winter is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy smaller crowds and to experience a different personality in the Park. It is a favorite time for viewing wildlife and for capturing Yosemite’s beauty on camera and canvas. Moreover, outdoor recreation opportunities abound. However, winter also creates its own challenges for staying safe and comfortable but with a little planning, preparation, and awareness your winter visit to Yosemite will be pleasantly rewarded.

SUNLIGHT

Daylight is short; carrying a headlamp or flashlight and extra batteries can be a lifesaver if you find yourself with a later than anticipated return to your vehicle or shelter.

WEATHER

Weather is unpredictable, therefore, prepare for all winter weather extremes. Rather than thinking in terms of “avoiding hypothermia,” a life-threatening cooling of your body temperature, hike in comfort and warmth by adding or reducing layers as follows:

• Base layer – synthetics, wool, or silk, never cotton. This layer is meant to pull moisture away from your skin so that you will feel dry.
• Mid layer – insulation to keep warm. Many outdoor enthusiasts enjoy fleece or wool.
• Outer layer (shell) – protects you from outside moisture, i.e., rain and snow. Newer materials are designed to “breath” to reduce sweating away from your skin so that you will feel dry.
• Hat – one suitable for keeping your head warm and dry. A good knit hat that is long enough to cover your ears can make a big difference. Keep warm with scarves and neck gaiters.
• Shoes – wear sturdy boots that protect your feet from rain, snow, and slush. Your boots should never be tight or you will lose circulation, which will make your feet cold. Thick wool or synthetic socks help keep your feet warm and dry. Carry extra socks.
• Gloves – have an extra pair in case your first pair gets wet.

Weather varies drastically in the park depending on elevation, with temperatures cooling by as much as five degrees for every 1,000 feet of elevation gain. At night, the opposite can occur with colder air sinking to the valley floor. Always check the latest weather forecast but prepare for wide-ranging temperatures, rain, snow, and ice.

NAVIGATION

Snow Blanketed terrain can quickly cause disorientation. Winter specific trails are marked with blaze. Always keep at least one marker or reliable reference point in sight. Carry a good map and compass (or GPS) and always know your location.

SNOW PLAY

Snow opens up exciting winter recreational opportunities in Yosemite. To keep the fun in your recreation, be realistic about your physical limits and stay within them.

WEIGHT VARIATION

Weather varies drastically in the Park.

FOR ALL SEASONS

• Stay on established trails – do not take shortcuts.
• Rivers, streams, and lakes are hazardous all year. Crossing water should only be attempted where it is safe.
• Rock scrambling – leave this to the critics.
• Water and food – stay hydrated and snack frequently, make sure you have plenty of food and water. If you are sweating, replace lost salts with salty, easy-to-digest snacks.
• 10 Hiking Essentials – including sunglasses, sunscreen, and a signaling method (mirror and whistle).
• Let someone know – always leave your travel and hiking plan, including your intended route and estimated time of return, with a trusted person.

HANTAVIRUS INFORMATION

Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases 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. 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/yourselfaly.htm

PLAGUE

Plague is an infectious bacterial disease that is carried by squirrels, chipmunks and other wild rodents and their fleas. When an infected rodent becomes sick and dies, its fleas can carry the infection to other animals, including humans. To protect yourself from plague, never feed wildlife, avoid dropping food scrapings when eating outside, avoid picking a tent near or disturbing rodent burrows, wear insect repellent with DEET, and immediately tell a park ranger if you see a dead animal.

Early symptoms of plague may include fever, chills, nausea, painful swelling at the site of an insect bite or lymph node, and other flu-like symptoms. If you develop any of these symptoms within 6 days of visiting an area at risk for plague in the park, see your doctor and inform them you may have been exposed. Plague is treatable with antibiotics if given in time.

WILDENESS ETIQUETTE: USING YOUR BACKWOODS BATHROOM

When nature calls, make sure you are at least 200 feet away from any water source. Dig a hole in dirt at least 6 inches deep so you’re able to bury your waste—your toilet paper gets packed out with you. Don’t bury it or try to burn it! If you are in snow and can’t dig a hole to soil you are expected to pack out your waste as well.

Photo by Jamie Richards
Keep Bears Wild

Yosemite bears may still be active during the winter months. Please, keep Yosemite’s black bears wild and alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

Store Your Food Properly.

The typical daily diet of most bears may consist of 4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, acorns, and grubs. It’s easier for a bear to eat the thousands of calories of food in an ice chest than it is to spend all day nibbling on 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 see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

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 209/372-0522.

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 are 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—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.

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.

**Store Your Food Properly:**

- **While in the Yosemite Valley:**
  - 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, a bear resistant food container, or store food in the trunk or glove compartment. Your car or food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats.
  - Do not store food in a tent, even when it is locked.

- **In Yosemite Valley:**
  - Food may be stored out of sight in hard-sided RVs with windows closed.

**How to Store Food:**

<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 (both windows closed) only during daylight hours. Do not store food in your car: after dark: use a food locker, a bear resistant food container, or store food in the trunk or glove compartment.</td>
<td>Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the trunk of a car. They can easily and quickly break into these containers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Campsite or Tent Cabin</td>
<td>You must store all food in food lockers—not in your tent or tent cabin. A food locker is available at each campsite and 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 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. Hang food at least 6 feet off the ground and 3 feet away from camp.</td>
<td>In Yosemite and the southern Sierra, bear canisters are the only effective and proven method of preventing bears from getting human food.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK ZERO LANDFILL INITIATIVE

Be a steward of Yosemite by helping make Yosemite the first Zero Landfill park in the country. Through the Zero Landfill Initiative, Yosemite National Park is reducing the amount of trash that goes to the landfill every year. In partnership with Yosemite Hospitality, we are making it easier for visitors and staff to participate by adding more recycling containers with better labels. We are also working to reduce the amount of waste we generate in park management operations.

Here are 3 things you can do to help:

1. Get rid of excess packaging by repacking food in reusable containers before you leave home.
3. Put trash and recycling in the right containers.

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
- 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.
For years, many have associated Yosemite in the winter with magic: a wonderland of soft blankets of snow, sparkling alpine glow on frozen mountain faces, and crisp starry skies decorated with wide-eyed constellations. One cannot help but feel enveloped in a sense of awe and wonder when observing it all.

Winter also brings many changes to the park: structures in Yosemite’s high country transform into ski cabins (e.g. Glacier Point Cabin, Ostrander Cabin, and Tuolumne Meadows Cabin), and busy trails transition into quiet snowshoe havens. High country lakes sometimes even become ice-skating retreats. The backcountry is a wild and seemingly untouched playground in the winter for those who crave adventure.

For many years, Yosemite’s winter changes developed a rich history enveloped in a showcase array of winter activities. Cold Sierra seasons brought hockey tournaments, Olympic speed skating trials, curling, downhill ski races, dog sledding, ski touring behind horses, and tobogganing. Donald Tresidder, the first president of the Yosemite Park and Curry Company, even put in a bid for the 1932 Winter Olympics to be hosted in Yosemite National Park. Thankfully Lake Placid New York was chosen as the site. Imagine how drastically the Olympic Games could have changed the landscape of Yosemite. Lake Placid was chosen because the International Olympic Committee said it had a “more predictable snowfall.” However, it must be noted that during the year of the 1932 Olympics, Lake Placid had record low snowfall, while Yosemite had record high snowfall. Not only has the park hosted a myriad of winter activities over the years, but it was also home to the first ski school west of the Mississippi. Donald Tresidder established the Yosemite ski school during the winter of 1928, and it was run by a top Swiss instructor: Jules Fritsch. He, along with Gordon Hooley, Wolf Greeven, and Ralph de Pfyffer were some of the first ski instructors in Yosemite. It was common for them to lead overnight backcountry ski trips with park visitors to Snow Flat and Mount Dana, often using backcountry ranger cabins for overnight accommodations.

Yosemite is not only known for having the first ski school in the West, but its historic Badger Pass was also the first ski resort established in California. Though Yosemite’s ski area is shy in size, it has fostered a deep love for winter activities since 1935. Generations upon generations of families come to the ski area every year to learn and play.

Here in Yosemite, it feels as though the seasons change at the perfect time: after busy hot summers, human hearts long for the cold and crisp winters. As the end of winter draws near, one cannot help but crave the cusp of long dark nights to elongated warm summer days.

Though Sierra winters bring many changes to the park, Yosemite continues to offer itself to everyone. Whether one prefers to bask in the beauty of a snow covered Valley, embark on wild back country adventures, or learn to fly down peaks on skis and snowboards, winter in Yosemite ignites a sense of awe and wonder.
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 cultivating 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.

Yosemite Hospitality LLC
Yosemite Hospitality, a subsidiary of Aramark, operates lodging, food and beverage, retail, recreational activities, tours, interpretive programs, transportation, and service stations under contract with the U.S. Department of Interior with a focus on delivering authentic and memorable guest experiences. Yosemite Hospitality is committed to providing park stewardship in collaboration with the National Park Service in effort to protect and preserve the park for millions of park visitors to enjoy. Visit www.TravelYosemite.com for more information.

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. Work funded by the Conservancy is visible throughout the park, in trail rehabilitation, wildlife protection and habitat restoration. The Conservancy is also dedicated to enhancing the visitor experience and providing a deeper connection to the park through outdoor programs, volunteering, wilderness services and its bookstores. Thanks to dedicated supporters, the Conservancy has provided $119 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Learn more at www.yosemiteconservancy.org or call 415/434-1782.

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Yosemite Volunteers: Serving Yosemite
Over 12,407 volunteers donated more than 186,000 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/getinvolved/volunteer.htm or call the volunteer office at 209/379-1850.

Yosemite Name Changes
The names of the following facilities in Yosemite have changed.

The changed names are:
• Half Dome Village (formerly Curry Village)
• Yosemite Valley Lodge (formerly Yosemite Lodge)
• The Majestic Yosemite Hotel (formerly The Ahwahnee)
• Big Trees Lodge (formerly Wawona Hotel)
• Yosemite Ski & Snowboard Area (formerly Badger Pass Ski Area)
• Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge)

Lose Something in Yosemite?
To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite’s restaurants, hotels, lounges, shuttle buses or tour services, call 209/372-4357. For items lost or found in other areas of the park, call 209/379-1001 or email yose_lostandfound@nps.gov

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