The Yosemite Valley Shuttle operates from 7am to 10pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run daily every 10 to 20 minutes. The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9am to 5pm, beginning May 24. See schedules posted at shuttle stops.

*Shuttle bus routes may change due to high traffic volumes.
Seasonal Highlights

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

WELCOME
You made it! You're here! The following information may help maximize your time in Yosemite. Be prepared to go wild!

Ask A Ranger at the Visitor Center
All visitor centers in Yosemite National Park are staffed with knowledgeable rangers and volunteers, ready to help answer your questions, provide directions, and hand out maps and brochures. Visitor centers are located in Yosemite Valley, Big Oak Flat, Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows. See pages 5, 8, and 10 for hours and more details.

Pop-up Information Centers
Look for pop-up blue booths throughout Yosemite, which are staffed with Yosemite Conservancy volunteers who are ready to answer your questions or give you directions. If you're interested in volunteering with the Yosemite Conservancy in the park, visit yosemiteconservancy.org/volunteer.

ARTS & CULTURE
Visit the Yosemite Museum
Learn the history of 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. Shuttle stops #5 and #9.

Take a Photography Class
Learn how to best capture the landscape of Yosemite by joining a photography expert from The Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite. Classes are offered each week. Some have evening performance or film. See page 6 for more information.

Get outside and enjoy your park!
Summer offers spectacular views of waterfalls, great hiking, and other endless opportunities for recreation. Find the adventures that will make lasting Yosemite memories for years to come.

GUIDED OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
Adventure Out with the Yosemite Mountaineering School (YMS)
The YMS provides outdoor adventures for people of all experience levels. We are here to help you learn how to enjoy Yosemite safely and responsibly. Give us a call to join one of our group classes or schedule a custom outing designed specifically for your group. We offer professional guides for hiking, backpacking and rock climbing. Reservations required. Call (209) 372-8344 or email yms@aramark.com.

Adventures with Yosemite Conservancy
Are you looking for a memorable way to deepen your connection with the park? Go on an expert-led adventure with Yosemite Conservancy! Join a scheduled Outdoor Adventure, such as a day hike, backpacking trip or bird-watching walk, or create a Custom Adventure tailored to your interests and schedule. For details, visit yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures, or call (209) 379–2317, ext. 10. See page 6 for upcoming adventures.

FAMILY FUN
Stroll with a Ranger
Learn about the wonders of the park on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily throughout the park on various topics including bears, waterfalls, and more. See pages 6, 7, 9, and 11 for details.

Explore Like A Junior Ranger!
Become a Junior Ranger and learn how you can help protect your park. To become a Junior Ranger, purchase a self-guided booklet, attend a guided program, collect a bag of trash, then take your oath and earn your badge. Guided programs are listed on pages 6, 7, 9, and 11. See page 12 for details.

Volunteer Drop In Program
Want to give back to Yosemite? Come join the fun! The Volunteer Drop-In Program is a family-friendly activity where you can take an active role in protecting and preserving our natural resources. Whether it’s your first time at the park or you are a returning visitor, come create new memories while removing invasive species, collecting native seeds, or picking up litter. The Drop-In Program meet every Friday at 9:30am in front of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center from May 31 to September 20. Projects will last 1-3 hours and volunteers must wear clothes that can get dirty, long pants, and closed-toe shoes. Sun protection, water, and snacks are recommended. Youth under eighteen must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Questions? Email yose_volunteers@nps.gov, or call (209) 379–1850.

GETTING AROUND
Take the Free Shuttle
Park your car and let the free shuttle take you to the most scenic points in the valley. You will help cut down on traffic congestion, and will be able to capture the best pictures. See schedules posted at shuttle stops.

Access for People with Disabilities
Accessible parking, lodging, tours, and activities are available throughout the park.

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/infrastructure.htm, or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at (209) 379-1035 for more information.

Emergency Information
Yosemite Village Garage • offers 24-hour emergency roadside assistance
For up-to-date road, weather, and park information:
(209) 372-0200
Medical Clinic (in Yosemite Valley):
Open 7 days per week from 9am to 7pm for primary and urgent care
Medical Clinic Phone: (209) 372-4637

What’s Inside:

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Welcome to Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Yosemite Travel Tips

The busy summer months have arrived! If you haven’t already, you’re likely to experience congestion, especially in Yosemite Valley. Be prepared for two- to three-hour delays, especially in afternoons and on weekends. Plan accordingly and use restrooms when available.

If you’re visiting Yosemite Valley for the day, look for parking in three major parking lots: Yosemite Falls Parking Lot, Yosemite Village Parking Lot, and at Half Dome Village Parking (formerly Curry Village). Free shuttle service to destinations throughout Yosemite Valley is available from each of these parking lots. If you have lodging or campground reservations, please park at your lodge or campsite.

Once you find a place to park, please leave your car parked. Using the free shuttles will help you avoid congestion and trouble finding another place to park. Parking fills to capacity throughout Yosemite by mid-morning. Don’t forget where you parked your car, as there are multiple parking areas throughout the Valley. Driving or parking on vegetation is prohibited.

Do not use or block the “Bus and Authorized Vehicles” lane while driving in Yosemite Valley. The bus lane ensures emergency vehicles can respond to incidents when traffic is backed up and provides preference for mass transit.
**Yosemite Valley**

Yosemite Valley, open year-round, is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. Get there via Highway 41/Wawona Road from Fresno, Highway 140/El Portal Road from Merced, Highway 120 west/Big Oak Flat Road from Manteca, and (during summer) via the Tioga Road. Yosemite Valley is home to massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls slows to a trickle by August, a moderate hike will bring you to impressive Vernal and Nevada Falls. Whether you explore the valley by foot, bike, car, or tour, you will behold scenery that will leave you breathless and eager to see what’s around the next corner.

**Glacier Point**

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and Yosemite’s high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley or Wawona. To get there from either of these places, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41) to Chinquapin, then turn onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating—some might say unnerving—view 3,214 feet down to Yosemite Valley below.

**Wawona and Mariposa Grove**

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park’s South Entrance. The nearby Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite. Enjoy a horse-drawn stage ride, watch blacksmiths at work, or hike one of the scenic trails. For more information, visit the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill’s Studio, adjacent to the Big Trees Lodge. This was once a painting studio for the 19th-century artist Thomas Hill.

**Tioga Road and Tuolumne Grove**

Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. It is usually open from late May or early June through November. The road’s elevation ranges from 6,200 feet to nearly 10,000 feet. The White Wolf area, midway across the park, is the starting point for day hikes to Lukens Lake and Harden Lake. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking area on the Tioga Road, and walk one steep mile down to the grove. Or park at Merced Grove trailhead on Big Oak Flat Road and walk 1.5 steep miles down to the grove. These groves are smaller than the more-famous Mariposa Grove, but are quieter and off-limits to vehicles. Remember, walking down is easier than walking back up.

**Tuolumne Meadows**

Tuolumne Meadows provides a glimpse of the High Sierra. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by even higher granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. Stop at the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center for information about hiking to Cathedral Lakes, Elizabeth Lake, Lembert Dome, or along the Tuolumne River through Lyell Canyon. Take advantage of the Tuolumne Meadows Hikers’ Bus from Yosemite Valley.

**Hetch Hetchy**

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is 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 ¼ hour) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from 7am to 9pm through Labor Day. Wilderness permits and bear canisters are available at the entrance station from 7am to 5pm. 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 Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Let your senses run wild as you learn about the scenery that surrounds you. See pages 5, 6, and 7 for more information on programs and other visitor services.

Naturalist Programs
Naturalists give walks and talks about Yosemite’s natural and cultural history, every day. See pages 6 and 7 for scheduled walks, talks, and evening programs.

Walking and Hiking
From easy walks to Lower Yosemite Fall, Cook’s Meadow, and Mirror Lake to strenuous hikes to the top of Yosemite Falls or Nevada Fall, Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. See page 17 for a list of hikes.

Tours
Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Valley Lodge and are weather dependent.

The Valley Floor Tour is a 26-mile, two-hour open-air tram tour narrated by a park ranger. Be sure to ask about Moonlight Tours, Starry Skies at Glacier Point Tours, and the Tuolumne Meadows Tour and Hiker’s Bus.

The Glacier Point Tour is offered daily. One-way tickets are available for those who want to hike into Yosemite Valley from Glacier Point.

The full-day Grand Tour combines Yosemite Valley, Glacier Point and Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias into one memorable tour. Tour departs daily at 8:45am, beginning May 24, conditions permitting.

For more information on departure times or to make reservations, call (209) 372-1240 or inquire at any of the Tour and Activity Desks at Yosemite Valley Lodge, Yosemite Village, or Half Dome Village.

Rafting
Rafting is a great way to see Yosemite Valley. Rent rafts at Half Dome Village from 10am to 6pm, beginning May 17, conditions permitting. If you bring your own raft, see page 15 for regulations.

Bicycling
Experience Yosemite Valley on a bicycle. There are several miles of bicycle paths that wind through Yosemite Valley. Use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Valley Lodge or Half Dome Village, open 8am to 7pm, weather permitting. Bicycles are only allowed on paved roads and paved bicycle paths.

Sightseeing
Some famous, awe-inspiring landmarks that Yosemite Valley is known for include:

- Yosemite Falls gives the Valley an extra touch of life when it’s flowing with spring runoff. You can walk to its base or take the strenuous trail to its top, page 17.

- Half Dome, Yosemite’s most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook’s Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, and Glacier Point, are just a few locations that will grant you some stunning views of Half Dome.

- El Capitan, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan. See if you can spot climbers on El Capitan through your binoculars and discover the thrill of vertical wilderness on Yosemite’s big walls.

- Happy Isles is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16. Cross the footbridges onto the isles, wander through indoor and outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite’s geologic story, or connect with nature through daily art workshops and activities.

- Tunnel View, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) showcases the immensity of the granite walls that surround Yosemite Valley, providing a classic view of El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

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.

The Incomparable Yosemite Valley

Yosemite’s natural and cultural history, forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook’s Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, and Glacier Point, are just a few locations that will grant you some stunning views of Half Dome.

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Spectacular vistas and the heart of the park
Yosemite Valley

Where to go and what to do

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore
The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore are open from 9am to 5pm. The facility offers information, maps, and books, and is located near shuttle stops #5/#9. Explore exhibits and learn how Yosemite’s landscape formed and how people interact with it.

Yosemite Films
Two films are shown daily, every half hour starting at 9:30am, except on Sundays, when the first show 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
Located in Yosemite Village next to the visitor center. The museum is open daily from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch. The Yosemite Museum Gallery is open daily from 10am to 4pm.

Gallery Exhibit: “Yosemite Lenscape: From Inspiration to Obsession”

160 years after the first picture was taken in Yosemite Valley, photography has done so much to shape the human experience of Yosemite National Park. This exhibit presents four frames for thinking about how photography has left a lasting impact on one of America’s favorite parks: how early photographers shaped the park’s origin, how researchers use modern-day imagery to make new discoveries, how social media is changing the way we interact with the natural world, and how you the visitor celebrate and share your Yosemite experiences. After you visit the gallery, join in the conversation by posting your pictures with the hashtag #YosemiteLenscape.

Yosemite Renaissance 35 - Call for Entries
If you are an artist inspired by Yosemite and the California Sierra Nevada, you can apply for Yosemite Renaissance 35! The call to artists begins June 1, 2019. Visit www.yosemiterennaissance.org to learn more.

Yosemite Renaissance exhibits share creative interpretations of Yosemite and the Sierra, not only the landscape, but also cultural, historical, and personal interpretations of the region. “Big Sister” by Jackie Clark is a wonderful example, winning Best of Show in 2018.

Indian Cultural Exhibit
Open daily from 9am to 5pm. Explore the living cultural history of Yosemite’s native people. See Indian cultural exhibits and daily demonstrations of stone tool making, basket weaving, beadwork, flutes, and more. Follow a self-guided accessible trail through an active reconstructed Miwok Village behind the museum to learn about the significant plants and structures.

Yosemite Museum Store
Open daily, 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch. Find traditional American Indian arts, crafts, jewelry, and books.

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

Happy Isles Art and Nature Center
Open 9am to 4pm, may close for lunch. Designed for nature-lovers of all ages, the center offers workshops with professional artists, creative classes for kids, natural history exhibits, and more. Located a short walk from shuttle stop #16.

The Ansel Adams Gallery
Located in Yosemite Village next to the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9am to 6pm. The Gallery offers the works of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other artists. See page 6 for photo walk times. For more details, call (209) 372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com.

Valley Services

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Showers</td>
<td>Half Dome Village</td>
<td>7am to 10pm, weather permitting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Showers</td>
<td>Yosemite Village</td>
<td>7am to 10pm, weather permitting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bike Rentals</td>
<td>Yosemite Village</td>
<td>8am to 7pm, weather permitting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bike Rentals</td>
<td>Half Dome Village</td>
<td>8am to 7pm, weather permitting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Propane Service</td>
<td>Yosemite Village</td>
<td>8am to 5pm, 24 hr AAA towing available</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wildflower Meadow</td>
<td>Yosemite Village</td>
<td>8am to 5pm, weather permitting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alpine Loop Trailhead</td>
<td>Yosemite Village</td>
<td>8am to 5pm, weather permitting</td>
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Exhibit:
A World of Alternatives - Original Photographs by Mark Citret, Jeffrey Conley, Vaughn Hutchins and Kerik Kouklis
April 1, 2019 – June 29, 2019

Photography as an art form is not that old, and when we refer to Traditional Photography it is often in reference to the gelatin silver print — Ansel Adams’ preferred medium. In reality, we now know as Alternative Processes — e.g. platinum, carbon, gum, collodion — often predated the more popular gelatin silver method by decades. Each of these alternatives produces rich, textured prints of subtly and atmosphere. In actuality, the platinum print yields a fuller range of tones than that of its silver successor, where the deepest shadows reveal great detail, while the highlights remain radiant with hints of delicate spectral differences.

Between April 1st and June 29th, 2019, The Ansel Adams Gallery will feature a rotating exhibit ‘A World of Alternatives’ with original work by photographers Mark Citret, Jeffrey Conley, Vaughn Hutchins and Kerik Kouklis. A variety of alternative processes will be on display, including the more modern adaptation of Platinum over Pigment printing, where digital photography and old world forms merge to create pastel tinged works that harken back to the days of hand-tinted photographs. Discover something new with “A World of Alternatives.”
Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures (YC) Experience the park in a new way with Yosemite Conservancy's naturalist guides! Upcoming outings include:

- **May 15 – 19** Nature Journaling in Yosemite: Drawing & Watercolor
- **May 19** Moonbow Photography
- **May 30 – June 2** Spring in Yosemite: Intermediate Reel Air Watercolor
- **June 8 – 9** Yosemite Without a Car
- **June 13 – 16** Watercolor Weekend: Capture Valley Scenery
- **June 15** Drive and Discover: Full Moon Hike to Sentinel Dome
- **June 21 – 23** Intro to Backpacking: Yosemite’s South Rim
- **June 28 – 30** Outdoor Adventures: Yosemite’s Cathedral Spires, Tuolumne Meadows
- **July 4** Overnight Under the Milky Way
- **July 11 – 14** Backpack to Glen Aulin & Waterfall Falls

Visit yosemiteconservancy.org/art, contact us at (209) 372-0631 or artcenter@yosemiteconservancy.org, or visit us at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center.

We also offer a drop-in Open Studio (daily, 11am-3pm), and children’s art classes (ages 4-12, $10/participant + $30/family, see page 6). To learn more and register for any of our art programs, visit yosemiteconservancy.org/art. Drop-ins welcome if space is available. Ages 4-12. See page 6. (YC) $10

**MORNING EVENTS**

**Monday**
- 9:00am - CLIMBER COFFEE 2 hrs. Meet with NPS’ climbers to discuss climbing management, safety, and rescue activities, accident prevention, and other current events surrounding the climbing community. Camp 4 campground, near the Colorado Bowls/Robinsons. (NPS) $10
- 10:00am - JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stops #5/#9 (NPS) $10
- 11:00am - OPEN STUDIO 4 hrs. Self-guided Yosemite-themed art activities for visitors of all ages at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center (shuttle stop #16). Bring, rent or purchase supplies. (YC) $10
- 11:00AM KIDS ART CLASS 1 hr. Instructor-led art class for kids age 4-12 at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Limited to 10 students. (YC) $10

**Tuesday**
- 9:00am - Bike to Hike Tour 2.5 hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk. Half Dome Village Bike Stand. (YH) $39
- 10:00am - JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stops #5/#9 (NPS) $10
- 11:00am - Art Workshop 4 hrs. Expert-led workshop at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Register online: yosemiteconservancy.org/art. Drop-in welcome if space is available. Ages 12+. See page 6. (YC) $10
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**Wednesday**
- 8:30am - Explore Yosemite’s Bird Life 2 hrs. Join a Yosemite Conservancy naturalist for a guided bird-watching walk. Meet at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. $10/person. No pre-registration required. (YC)
- 9:00am - Bike to Hike Tour 2.5 hrs. Half Dome Village Bike Stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) $39
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**Thursday**
- 9:00am - Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance at the Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. (YC) $10
- 10:00am - Yosemite Conservancy Art Programs (YC) $10
- 10:00am - Yosemite Art workshop with NPS climbers rangers to discuss climbing management, safety, and rescue activities, accident prevention, and other current events surrounding the climbing community. Camp 4 campground, near the Colorado Bowls/Robinsons. (NPS) $10
- 11:00am - Discovery Hike - Vernal Falls Bridge 3.5 hrs. Half Dome Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YH) $39
- 12:00pm - JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stops #5/#9 (NPS) $10
- 1:00pm - Art Workshop 4 hrs. Expert-led workshop at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Register online: yosemiteconservancy.org/art. Drop-in welcome if space is available. Ages 12+. See page 6. (YC) $10
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- 11:00am - Art Workshop 4 hrs. Expert-led workshop at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Register online: yosemiteconservancy.org/art. Drop-in welcome if space is available. Ages 12+. See page 6. (YC) $10
- 11:00AM OPEN STUDIO 4 hrs. Self-guided Yosemite-themed art activities for visitors of all ages at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center (shuttle stop #16). Bring, rent or purchase supplies. (YC) $10
- 11:00AM KIDS ART CLASS 1 hr. Instructor-led art class for kids age 4-12 at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Limited to 10 students. (YC) $10

**Programs in all CAPS and COLOR are especially for children and their families.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>ASK-A-CLIMBER 4  hrs. View climbers on El Cap through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. El Capitane, bridge across from shuttle stop #4 (NP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>KIDS ART CLASS 1  hrs. Instructor-led art class for kids age 4-12 at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Limited to 10 students. (YC) $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>KIDS ART CLASS 3  hrs. Instructor-led art class for kids age 4-12 at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Limited to 10 students. (YC) $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>KIDS ART CLASS 1  hrs. Instructor-led art class for kids age 4-12 at Happy Isles Art and Nature Center. Limited to 10 students. (YC) $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30pm</td>
<td>Discovery Hike – Less Traveled Lower Valley Loop 4 hrs. Yosemite Valley Amphitheater. Tickets/info at any tour desk. (YC) $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Family Ranger Talk – Meet Your Yosemite 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #49 (NP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk – Yosemite's First People 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #49 (NP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00pm</td>
<td>FAMILY RANGER TALK – MEET YOUR YOSEMITE 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #49 (NP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #49 (NP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #49 (NP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #49 (NP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>NIGHT PROWLS 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. See pg. 8 for locations. (YC) $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>NIGHT PROWLS 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. See pg. 8 for locations. (YC) $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>NIGHT PROWLS 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. See pg. 8 for locations. (YC) $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>FAMILY RANGER TALK – Meet Your Yosemite 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #49 (NP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #49 (NP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00pm</td>
<td>FAMILY RANGER TALK – MEET YOUR YOSEMITE 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #49 (NP)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families.
Explore History, Discover Giant Trees, and Find Amazing Vistas

These park areas offer endless opportunities for amazing experiences.

**Wawona**

**Evening Programs**
Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Big Trees Lodge lobby from 5:30pm to 9:30pm, Tuesday through Saturday, for music and stories from Yosemite’s past. If you ask him, Tom might perform one of three one-hour picture shows: Yosemite Music, Roosevelt & Muir 1903, or Wawona History.

**Wawona Visitor Center at Hill’s Studio**
The bookstore only is open daily from 8am to 5pm, may close for lunch. Beginning May 24, Hill’s Studio will be open daily from 8:30am to 5pm. The visitor center offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, bear canister rentals, books and maps. Until May 24, wilderness permits for Wawona trailheads only can be obtained by self-registration on the front porch and bear canisters can be rented inside the bookstore. Located on the grounds of the Big Trees Lodge, Hill’s Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the lodge or park at the Big Trees Lodge Store parking area and follow the path up the hill.

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

**Experience Horse-Drawn Travel**
Travel into history by taking a 10-minute horse-drawn stage ride. Purchase tickets at the Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. See page 9 for schedule. Five dollars for adults and $4 for children ages 3 to 12-years old.

**Blacksmith Shop**
Smell the burning coal, hear the ring of the hammer on the anvil, and watch a demonstration of the ancient art of blacksmithing. See page 9 for schedule.

**Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias**
Located near Yosemite’s South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is the park’s largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees in the grove. Come visit one of only a few locations on earth where you can get a personal glimpse of giant sequoias. Allow 1 ½ hours driving time to reach the grove from the Valley. Trails into the grove extend uphill from the trailhead at the Mariposa Grove Arrival Area. Interpretive signs between the trailhead and the California Tree provide a self-guiding tour.

**Free Shuttle to the Mariposa Grove**
A free shuttle provides service from the Mariposa Grove Welcome Plaza, to the Mariposa Grove, from 8am to 8pm, departing every 10 minutes. Private vehicles may only enter the Mariposa Grove when the shuttle bus is not operating. Only vehicles displaying an accessibility placard are permitted to drive into the Mariposa Grove at any time. There is no shuttle service between Wawona and the Mariposa Grove, for the general public. Pets are not allowed on trails in the Grove.
## EVENING PROGRAMS

Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening days and stargazing programs are offered for your enjoyment at this stunning location. See table for times and information.

### FOOD & BEVERAGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Vacation Home Rentals</td>
<td>Yosemite Vacation Home Rentals office on Chilnualna Falls Road. For questions please call (855) 290-3499. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GIFTS & GROCERIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Shop</td>
<td>Yosemite Berry Grove, 7am to 3pm (except May 16 and 23) 1.5 hrs. Mariposa Grove Arrival Area (NPS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### POST OFFICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wawona Post Office</td>
<td>Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GAS STATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Trees Lodge Service Station</td>
<td>8am to 5pm, Diesel &amp; propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GOLF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Trees Lodge Golf Course</td>
<td>8am to 6pm, beginning May 17. Conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par-35 course. (209)957-6572</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wawona Stable</td>
<td>7am to 5pm, beginning May 18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM (Except May 19) 10 mins. Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>2:00pm Horse-Drawn Stage Rides 10 mins. each. Purchase tickets at Grey Barn in Pioneer Yosemite History Center. $5 adult / $4 children ages 3-12. (NPS) $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>1:00pm Blacksmithing Demonstration (June 9 and 16 Only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove 1.5 hrs. Mariposa Grove Arrival Area (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (Except May 21) 1.5 hrs. Mariposa Grove Arrival Area (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove 1.5 hrs. Mariposa Grove Arrival Area (NPS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GLACIER POINT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk (Except May 19 and 24) 1.5 hrs. A short walk to a great view of El Capitan. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45pm</td>
<td>Sunset Ranger Talk (Except May 19 and 26) 30 mins. Glacier Point Narrative overlooking Yosemite Valley and the High Sierra. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families.
North of Yosemite Valley

Ranger Programs and Spectacular Vistas

Hidden in Yosemite National Park's peaceful northwest corner, Hetch Hetchy Valley is a treasure worth visiting in all seasons. Hetch Hetchy boasts one of the longest hiking seasons in the park and is an ideal place for spring waterfalls and wildflower displays.

HETCH HETCHY, HODGDON MEADOW, & CRANE FLAT
See local postings for additional naturalist walks and programs.

**Sunday**

9:00am | **JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM** *(Except May 19)* 1 hr. All ages welcome. Exploration of the Hodgdon Meadow area, games, stories, etc. Meet at the Hodgdon Meadow Campground campfire circle near the group campsites. Wear sturdy footwear and be prepared to walk. (NPS)

9:00am | **Hetch Hetchy Wildflower Bloom Monitoring Walk** *(Except May 20)* 2 hrs. Join a ranger-naturalist to learn to identify wildflowers and help update a weekly bloom list for the first mile of trail towards Wapama Falls from the O'Shaughnessy Dam. Wear sturdy footwear and bring sun protection and water. Meet at the dam at 9am or catch up along the way. (NPS)

**Monday**

4:00pm | **Ranger on the Dam** *(Except May 21 and 28)* 1 hr. Stop by anytime during this hour and talk with a ranger-naturalist to learn about the Hetch Hetchy Valley and O'Shaughnessy Dam. (NPS)

8:30pm | **Yosemite Night Sky** *(June 18 Only)* 2 hrs. Crane Flat area. Make reservations at the Big Oak Flat information station or call 209/379-1899. (NPS)

**Tuesday**

1:00pm | **Giant Sequoia Walk** *(June 5 and 12 Only)* 45 mins. Join a ranger-naturalist for a walk through the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias to learn about these fascinating trees. Meet at the picnic tables at the lower end of the Tuolumne Grove, a mile walk downhill from the parking area. Wear sturdy footwear and bring water. (NPS)

2:00pm | **Giant Sequoia Walk** *(June 5 and 12 Only)* 45 mins. Join a ranger-naturalist for a walk through the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias to learn about these fascinating trees. Meet at the picnic tables at the lower end of the Tuolumne Grove, a mile walk downhill from the parking area. Wear sturdy footwear and bring water. (NPS)

7:00pm | **Twilight Meadow Observation and Sketching Walk** *(June 12 Only)* 1 hr. Meet at the Hodgdon Meadow Campground campfire circle near the group campsites. Leisurely walk with stops. Wear sturdy footwear. Supplies provided if needed. (NPS)

**Wednesday**

8:00am | **Coffee with a Ranger** *(June 6 and 13 Only)* 1 hr. Stop by anytime during this hour to learn about the park. Bring your own mug and your questions. Hodgdon Meadow Campground. Check kiosk posting for location. (NPS)

**Thursday**

7:00pm | **Bears and Other Wildlife Walk** *(June 7 and 14 Only)* 1 hr. Learn about some of the amazing creatures who call Yosemite home. Meet at the Hodgdon Meadow Campground campfire circle near the group campsites. Wear sturdy footwear. (NPS)

**Friday**

8:00am | **Coffee with a Ranger** *(June 8 and 15 Only)* 1 hr. Stop by anytime during this hour to learn about the park. Bring your own mug and your questions. Hodgdon Meadow Campground. Check kiosk posting for location. (NPS)

1:00pm | **Giant Sequoia Walk** *(Except May 18 and 25)* 45 mins. Join a ranger-naturalist for a walk through the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias to learn about these fascinating trees. Meet at the picnic tables at the lower end of the Tuolumne Grove, a mile walk downhill from the parking area. Wear sturdy footwear and bring water. (NPS)

2:00pm | **Giant Sequoia Walk** *(Except May 18 and 25)* 45 mins. Join a ranger-naturalist for a walk through the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias to learn about these fascinating trees. Meet at the picnic tables at the lower end of the Tuolumne Grove, a mile walk downhill from the parking area. Wear sturdy footwear and bring water. (NPS)
Tuolumne Meadows

*Due to the amount of snow, it is very likely that Tuolumne Meadows programs, services, and trailheads may not be available before May or June. Check local postings for opening dates.

When Can I Go To The High Country?

You may be wondering when Tioga Road will open and when those high country adventures can commence. Fortunately, Yosemite National Park experienced near record snowfall this past winter, similar to that of 2017! So, although the birds are singing and flowers are blooming at lower elevations, spring will arrive later than usual in the Tuolumne Meadows vicinity. What does this mean? Well, to those dreaming of high country adventures, be advised that there is winter-like conditions above 8,000 feet, so if you plan to hike or backpack expect snow, flooded, and/or muddy conditions. When hiking in snow conditions, the trail may be completely obscured by snow, requiring navigation by map and compass (even if you have a GPS). Please, come prepared, make good decisions and do not put others at risk when visiting the wilderness this summer.

Road crews have begun clearing snow from Tioga Road in late April. It is impossible to predict when the road may open, even in late spring, due to spring weather. When the road is cleared, additional time will be needed to get services up and running.

Don’t fret. It won’t be long before the animals are scrambling about, working quickly to get their seasonal tasks done before winter sets in, once again, and before you’ll be able to view those high country vistas along Tioga Road.

Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center

The wilderness center is scheduled to open soon after the Tioga Road. Please check the park website for hours of operation. Visit the wilderness center to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent bear canisters. The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center is located just south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadows Lodge.

Big Oak Flat

The trailhead for the Tuolumne Grove, which consists of approximately 25 sequoias is near the intersection of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga roads at Crane Flat. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from the parking area into the grove. The trail drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the uphill return. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile nature trail. There is no potable water available. 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 three-mile round-trip hike (about three hours) into the grove. The trail drops down 1.5 miles making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. There is no potable water at the parking area or down in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is located 3.5 miles north of Crane Flat and 4.5 miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trail is marked by a sign and post labeled B-10 Tuolumne Grove.

Tuolumne Grove

The Information Station offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, bear canister rentals, books and maps. Until May 24, wilderness permits for the Big Oak Flat Road and Tioga Road trailheads only can be obtained by self-registration on the front porch and bear canisters can be rented inside the bookstore. The center is located just inside the park entrance on Hwy 120W.

GROCERIES

The bookstore only will be open daily from 9am to 5pm. The Information Station will be open daily from 8am to 5pm. The Information Station offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, bear canister rentals, books and maps. Until May 24, wilderness permits for the Big Oak Flat Road and Tioga Road trailheads only can be obtained by self-registration on the front porch and bear canisters can be rented inside the bookstore. The center is located just inside the park entrance on Hwy 120W.

SERVICES AT CRANE FLAT

Crane Flat Store

8am to 7pm, (conditions permitting)

Diesel & propane available.

GAS STATION

Crane Flat

8am to 7pm, (conditions permitting)

Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Tuolumne Grove provides a glimpse of the High Sierra. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by even higher granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week.
Just For Kids
Experience the Adventures of a Junior Ranger

Explore, Learn, and Protect!
Junior Rangers at Yosemite National Park take an oath to protect parks, continue to learn about the natural and cultural history at other parks, and vow to share their own ranger story with friends and family.

Here Is How YOU Can Become A Junior Ranger!
Every year, hundreds of thousands of youth are sworn in as Junior Rangers in National Parks across the country! At Yosemite alone more than 20,000 youth participate in the Yosemite Junior Ranger Program, earning themselves an official Junior Ranger patch and badge! You could become Yosemite's newest Junior Ranger today by completing the following steps:

- Purchase your Junior Ranger or Little Cub Hand Book at any of the Yosemite Conservancy Bookstores located in park Visitor Centers, or at the Village Store
- Complete the pages in your Junior Ranger Booklet
- Pick up trash.
- Attend a Guided Program.
- Return your completed book and a bag of trash to the staff at a Visitor Center, or the Happy Isles Art and Nature Center, or attend a Junior Ranger Swear-in Ceremony.
- Take your official Junior Ranger Pledge.
- Earn your official Junior Ranger Badge along with a Junior Ranger Patch or a Little Cub Button.
Keep Wildlife Wild!

Black bears, coyote, deer, and grey squirrels are just a few of the many animal species in the park that are active year round. Learn how to help protect Yosemite’s wildlife.

Store Your Food Properly.

4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, berries, acorns, and grubs—that’s the typical daily diet of most bears. It’s a lot easier for a bear to eat the thousands of calories of food in an ice chest than it is to spend all day nibbling at grasses. Their incredible sense of smell allows them to detect things we can’t, which helps them find food—a black bear can smell a dead deer three miles away. To top it off, bears have excellent vision and can see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

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

You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away. Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there is more than one person, stand together and yell as loud as possible. If the bear continues to approach, don’t turn your back to your food. 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!

If you get too close, you will be helping the bear become used to being around people. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed.

Drive the speed limit.

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

Red Bear, Dead Bear

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

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

Backpackers: Save Your Food, Save A Bear

Bear resistant food canisters are 2.7-pound containers that can be used to store five or more days of backpacker food when meals are carefully planned. Canisters have an inset lid that bears are unable to open. When used correctly, bears learn that—they smell like food—the canisters are not worth investigating.

Report Bear Sightings!

To report bear sightings, improper food storage, trash problems, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at (209) 372-5322. Your call can be made anonymously. For more information regarding bears and proper food storage, visit the park’s website (go.nps.gov/bears).

Coyotes

Watching a coyote hunting for mice in one of Yosemite’s many meadows can be an amazing wildlife experience. Coyotes are opportunistic carnivores that primarily prey on small mammals. Like bears, their diets change throughout the year with food availability.

Unfortunately, coyotes sometimes change their natural behavior to try to obtain human food. Approaching, and/or feeding coyotes can cause them to lose their natural fear of humans. Please do not stop to feed coyotes that you see along the sides of the roads. This encourages them to frequent roadssides to beg for food, endangering both coyotes and drivers.

How to Store Food

“Food” includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This may include items that you do not consider food, such as canned goods, bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unsashed 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 close your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats. Never leave unattended food unsecured to the outside of a vehicle or in a pickup truck bed.</td>
<td>Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the 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 site. Food may be stored out of sight in hard-sided food boxes with windows closed.</td>
<td>Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even check food lockers to see if they’re secured. Keep food locked closed and secured at all times, even when you are in your campsite or tent cabin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic Areas &amp; on the Trails</td>
<td>Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm’s reach. Don’t turn your back to your food. Bears may be attracted to picnic areas and eat trash on the trail.</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 canisters are the only effective and proven method of preventing bears from getting human food.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MOUNTAIN LIONS

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

For your safety:

Do not leave pets or pet food outside and unattended. Pets can attract mountain lions.

Avoid hiking alone. Watch children closely and never let them run ahead or lag behind on the trail. Teach children what to do if they see a lion.

What should you do if you meet a mountain lion?

Never approach one, especially if it is with kittens. Most lions will avoid confrontation. Always give them a way to escape.

Don’t run. Stay calm. Hold your ground, or back away slowly. Face the lion and stand upright. Do all you can to appear larger. Raise your arms. If you have small children with you, pick them up.

If the lion behaves aggressively, wave your arms, shout, and throw objects at it. The goal is to convince it that you may be dangerous. If attacked, fight back!

Mountain lions are magnificent creatures and native to Yosemite. Generally, they are calm, quiet, and elusive. Sightings are rare, so if you spot one, consider yourself privileged!
Enjoying Yosemite
Summer is a popular time to visit Yosemite, and for good reasons; daylight hours are long and the weather is usually warm. Plant and animal life are vibrant. High country trails that have been hiding for months are now waiting to be hiked and the waterfalls are still full. However, summer conditions present unique challenges which you must consider to ensure your outdoor enjoyment.

Weather
Dehydration and exhaustion can occur during any season but we are particularly vulnerable during the summer heat. Always carry more water than you need. Without rationing water, make sure your hike or outdoor activity is half over before your water is half gone. Prevent dehydration by sipping lots of water throughout the day and frequently eating salty, easy-to-digest snacks. Thunderstorm season is here. Remember, there is no safe place outside when you can hear thunder. Follow the saying, “when thunder roars, go indoors.” If you cannot reach a building or car (with a hard top), hike down and away from ridges and outcroppings. Do not be the tallest object or near a tall object.

Rivers and Stream
Yosemite’s streams are a huge temptation for the curious, the photographer, and the overheated and weary hiker simply wanting to cool tired feet. Do not be fooled! Yosemite’s water is deceptively dangerous and unforgiving. Visitors are strongly urged to enjoy moving or falling water from a safe distance. Please: Do NOT leave the safety of the trail.

Boating / Floating
Before boating or floating, check the Park’s website at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/water.htm for allowable locations and conditions. We urge you to wear a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD). Mishaps occur suddenly, you may not have time to put on your PFD. Make sure your watercraft is safe for water conditions.

Yosemite’s Trails
Yosemite’s 800 miles of trails pass through natural areas and endure all the forces of nature including flooding, fire, erosion, and slides. Trails may be damaged from weather and past fires. Snow can be present over higher elevation trails. Always carry a good topo map and compass (GPS optional) and know your location, including your back route, in case you need to turn around.

Yosemite’s Roads
Yosemite’s roads are as dangerous as the roads near your home, with additional hazards such as rock fall and abundant wildlife, including deer and bear. There are many sites to distract drivers. If you cannot devote 100% of your attention to your driving, please pull off the road into a designated pull-off or parking area. Buckle up! Park rangers enforce California’s Motor Vehicle Code on park roads.

For All Seasons
• Don’t approach moving water.
• Stay on established trails – do not take shortcuts, go over fences, or approach water. Most of Yosemite’s non-traffic related serious injuries occur off trail.
• Carry plenty of food and water, stay hydrated and snack often.
• “10 hiking essentials” – including a flashlight or headlamp, sunglasses, sunscreen, navigation, and a signaling method (mirror and whistle).
• Let someone know – always leave your travel and hiking plan, including intended route, destination, and time of return, with a trusted person. If no one knows you are missing, no one is going to be looking for you.
• And remember this truism: you are responsible for your safety.

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 take steps to protect yourself from HPS. HPS risk is greater inside enclosures where deer mice are present. If staying in guest lodging, tell housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice in your room. Do not clean the area yourself. Keep doors to guest lodging shut and keep food in sealed containers. 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. For more information on hantavirus visit: www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yourssafety.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 warm-blooded animals including humans. Never feed wildlife, avoid dropping food scraps when eating outside, and pitching a tent near or disturbing rodent burrows. Wear insect repellent with DEET, and tell a park ranger if you see a dead animal.

Early symptoms of plague may include high fever, chills, nausea, weakness, and painful swelling at the site of an insect bite or lymph node. If you develop 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.

Avoid Contact with Wildlife
Wild animals in Yosemite can transmit diseases, including plague, rabies, and hantavirus. Keeping your distance and your food from wildlife not only protects them, it also protects you. If you encounter a mammal, particularly a raccoon, skunk, fox, coyote, or bat, that is behaving erratically, don’t touch it. Report the sick animal to a park employee. Storing your food properly will reduce your exposure to rodents and their fleas, which may carry plague.
Permit Required to Hike Half Dome

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up for 2019, from May 24 through October 7, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 preseason lottery permits have already been issued for 2019. In addition, approximately 50 permits will be released by daily lottery throughout the season based on estimated under-use and cancellation rates (exact number may change throughout the summer). Applications for daily lotteries will be plainly visible by attaching it to an outer jacket pocket. These permits may be acquired through early reservations (50 per day) or day before walk-up (25 per day). Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area may descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit. More information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpromts.htm. For backpackers more information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm.

Rafting

Conditions permitting, rafting on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley (Clark’s Bridge to Sentinel Beach) and the South Fork of the Merced River in Wawona is open from 10am to 6pm daily to non-motorized vessels or floatation devices. The entire length of the Merced River in Yosemite Valley is closed to all floatation devices when the river gauge at Sentinel Bridge reads 6.5 feet or higher. Ask at a visitor center for conditions and obey all posted signs.

You must have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device.

Falling trees and other natural debris in the river create important habitat for fish and other wildlife. Be alert—they can also create hazards for rafters.

Fishing

In Yosemite is regulated by state law. A valid California Sport-fishing license is required for those persons aged 16 years and older. When fishing, the license must be plainly visible by attaching it to an outer layer of clothing (not the waders).

Trout season runs through November 15 (except Frog Creek near Lake Eleanor, which opens June 15).

Special fishing regulations apply on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley from Happy Isles downstream to the Foresta Bridge in El Portal. Within these reaches of the river, it is catch-and-release only for rainbow trout. Brown trout limits are five fish per day. Only artificial lures or flies with barbless hooks may be used.

The use of live or dead minnows, bait fish or amphipaths, non-preserved fish eggs or roe is prohibited.

Pets

Daytime temperatures can reach above 100° Fahrenheit in the summer. Keep your pet cool and well-hydrated. In Yosemite, pet owners have a few rules to follow:

- Pets are only allowed in developed areas and on paved roads and paved bike paths. Are not allowed anywhere in the Mariposa or Merced sequoia groves, on trails, in wilderness areas, or where signs are posted prohibiting them.
- Pets must be on a leash (6 feet or less) or otherwise physically restrained.
- Please clean up and deposit pet feces in trash receptacles.
- Pets are not allowed in lodging facilities, Camp 4, or other buildings in the park.
- Pets may not be left unattended.

Bicycling

Each season, plants are crushed from bicycle travel in meadows, campgrounds, and picnic areas. Please respect park resources and keep bicycles on paved roads and paved bicycle trails. Bikes are not allowed to travel off paved trails. Mountain biking opportunities are available in designated areas outside of Yosemite.

Backwoods Bathroom Etiquette

Help us keep our water clean! Human waste must be buried at least 6 inches deep, and at least 100 feet away from any source of water. Toilet paper must be packed out.

Trail Etiquette

Trails are built to help you find your way into (and out of) the Wilderness, but they’re also carefully designed to minimize impact on the landscape and prevent erosion. Please stay on the trail to help protect your park.

Tuolumne Water

Did you know that water from Tuolumne Meadows provides drinking water to over 2.6 million people, and irrigation water to thousands of acres? Help keep this water clean by using established restrooms and staying on trails.


during your visit, be attentive to the special permit requirements and regulations in place to protect park resources and those designed for your safety.

Protection of park resources

YOSEMITE GUARDIANS

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park’s most important guardians. With over 5 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/your-safety.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.
Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

An adventurous overnight experience

Yosemite National Park contains 13 popular campgrounds. Up to seven are on a reservation system, the rest are first-come, first-served. From April through September, reservations are essential and the first-come, first-served sites often fill by noon during these months.

Camping Reservations

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

For current campground status, call (209) 372-0266.

Yosemite Valley

There is a 30-day camping limit within Yosemite National Park in a calendar year; From May 1 to September 15, the camping limit is 14 days, only seven of those days can be in Yosemite Valley or Wawona.

Camping Outside Yosemite

For information about U.S. Forest Service seasonal campgrounds near Yosemite, contact Groveland Ranger Station at (209) 963-7825, Mariposa Ranger Station at (209) 966-3638, Mono Lake Ranger Station at (760) 674-3044, or Oakhurst Ranger Station at (559) 683-4636. For private campgrounds outside Yosemite, call the respective chamber of commerce or visitor bureau listed on page 10.

NEW Camp 4 Daily Lottery

Beginning Tuesday, May 21, 2019, a Camp 4 pilot daily lottery will go into effect until early September. The lottery opens at www.recreation.gov at 12:01am pacific time the day before your intended arrival date. The lottery is open until 4pm pacific time. The lottery automatically matches applicants with the number of camping spaces. All people who enter the daily lottery will be notified by email on the results of their lottery application. Each person (not just the primary applicant) must check in at the campground using a valid photo ID. Six people will be assigned to each campsite; people in one group may be assigned to different campgrounds. You can register for up to seven nights. Camp 4 is open all year and campsites are not wheelchair accessible.

Campgrounds in Yosemite National Park*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAMPGROUND</th>
<th>OPEN 2018 (APPROXIMATE)</th>
<th>MAX RV LENGTH</th>
<th>MAX TRAILER LENGTH</th>
<th>RESERVATIONS REQUIRED?</th>
<th>DAILY FEE</th>
<th># OF SITES</th>
<th>PETS</th>
<th>WATER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley - Upper Pines</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>All Year</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley - Lower Pines</td>
<td>Apr 1 - Oct 27</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Tap</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley - North Pines</td>
<td>Apr 1 - Oct 27</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$36</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>Tap</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley - Camp 4</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>No RVs/trailers</td>
<td>Late May - Early Sep</td>
<td>$0/person</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Tap</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South - Wawona</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>April 8 - Oct 1</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South - Bridleview Creek</td>
<td>Aug 17 - Sep 23</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North - Hodgdon Meadow</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>30 ft</td>
<td>Apr - Oct 1</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North - Crane Flat</td>
<td>Aug 17 - Oct 15</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North - Tamarack Flat</td>
<td>11- Oct 15</td>
<td>No RVs/trailers</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North - White Wolf</td>
<td>11- Sep 23</td>
<td>27 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North - Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>11 - Sep 3</td>
<td>No RVs/trailers</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North - Porcupine Flat</td>
<td>11 - Oct 15</td>
<td>No RVs/trailers</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (boil)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North - Tuolumne Meadows</td>
<td>Aug 17 - Sep 23</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Exact campground opening and closing dates are subject to conditions.

General Camping Information

To check same-day camping availability, call (209) 372-0266.

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

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

Campfires
- In Yosemite Valley between May 1 and September 30, campfires are permitted between 5pm and 10pm. At other times of the year in and 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.

Group Campgrounds
Tuolumne Meadows, Hodgdon Meadow, Wawona, and Bridle Creek have group campgrounds. Thirteen to 30 people are allowed in each group campsite. Tent camping only. Pets, RVs, and generators are not permitted.
Choose your adventure

With over 800 miles of hiking trails, what better way to enjoy the beauty of Yosemite than on foot. Ask a ranger at any visitor center for one of several free day-hike handouts. Excellent maps and guidebooks are available for purchase at bookstores throughout the park.

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Fall</td>
<td>Bridalveil Fall Parking Area</td>
<td>0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6</td>
<td>1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columba Rock</td>
<td>Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 2 to 3 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Upper Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7.2 miles round-trip, 8 to 8 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 2,700-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror Lake (a seasonal lake)</td>
<td>Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17</td>
<td>2 miles, 1 hour round-trip to Mirror Lake, 3 miles, loop around lake</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernal Fall Footbridge</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>7 miles round-trip, 2 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>7 miles round-trip, 5 to 7 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,800-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Half Dome</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>14.8 miles one-way, 9 to 4 hours one-way</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point</td>
<td>Southside Drive</td>
<td>4.8 miles one-way, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 1,800-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Floor Loop</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6</td>
<td>13 miles full loop, 5 to 7 hours full loop</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Day Hikes Outside of Yosemite Valley

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wawona - Meadow Loop</td>
<td>Big Trees Lodge</td>
<td>3.5 miles round-trip, 1.5 hours</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wawona - Swinging Bridge Loop</td>
<td>Wawona Store / Pioneer Yosemite History Center Parking Area</td>
<td>4.75 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mariposa Grove - Big Trees Loop</td>
<td>Mariposa Grove Arrival Area</td>
<td>5.9 miles round-trip, 30 to 45 mins.</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mariposa Grove - Grizzly Giant Loop Trail</td>
<td>Mariposa Grove Arrival Area</td>
<td>2.1 miles round-trip, 1.5 to 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glacier Point Area - Taft Point</td>
<td>Sentinel Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glacier Point Area - Sentinel Dome</td>
<td>Sentinel Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows - Soda Springs / Parsons Lodge</td>
<td>Lambert Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>1.5 miles round-trip, 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows - Lambert Dome</td>
<td>Lambert Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Moderately Strenuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows - John Muir Trail through Lyell Canyon</td>
<td>Dog Lake Parking Area</td>
<td>8 miles one-way, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Easy, 200-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows - Elizabeth Lake</td>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Group Campground</td>
<td>4.8 miles round-trip, 4 to 5 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tioga Road - Lusena Lake</td>
<td>White Wolf</td>
<td>5.4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tioga Road - Yosemite Valley via Porcupine Creek</td>
<td>Porcupine Creek</td>
<td>7 miles one-way, 4 to 6 hours</td>
<td>Moderate, 4,000-foot loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tioga Road - Yosemite Valley via Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>Lusena Lake Trailhead</td>
<td>10.5 miles one-way, 5 to 9 hours</td>
<td>Moderately Strenuous, 3,500 to 4,000-foot loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tioga Road - Yosemite Valley via Clouds Rest</td>
<td>Tenaya Lake</td>
<td>19 miles one-way, 10 to 12 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hetch Hetchy Area - Wapama Falls</td>
<td>O'Shaughnessy Dam</td>
<td>5 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FEATURED HIKE

Mirror Lake Loop

Distance: 5 miles / 8 kilometers
Elevation Gain: 200 feet
Difficulty: Moderate
Time: 2 to 3 hours
Trailhead: Mirror Lake (shuttle stop #17)

Trail Description:
This trail begins at shuttle stop #17. The first mile of this trail is a paved service road that leads directly to Mirror Lake. You may access the loop trail from the end of the paved path. The loop follows Tenaya Creek beyond the lake, and crosses two bridges after the Snow Creek Trail junction before returning past Mirror Lake on the south side of Tenaya Canyon.

Mirror Lake is often referred to as Mirror Meadow in late summer due to the lack of water and the influx of grasses and sandy areas, however, this hike allows for exhilarating views of Half Dome and Mt. Watkins. Exhibits along the trail tell the story of Mirror Lake’s lake-to-meadow succession, and also highlight some of the cultural history of the area.

Know Before You Go:
- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.
- Stay away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards. Choose swimming areas carefully and swim only during low water conditions.
- Always supervise children closely.
- Avoid areas of whitewater, where streams flow over rocky obstructions.
- Never swim or wade upstream from a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Nearly every year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.
We all have memories in nature that reflect who we are today. Whether it was the first time you were taken to see a giant sequoia tree by a loved one, the first time swimming at your local lake, or seeing the stars outside of the city lights on that first backpacking trip, these new experiences have given us a closer connection to the natural world. This is the same natural world our ancestors walked on and viewed as kin.

Everyday, more and more individuals are showing interest in the movement of diversifying the outdoors. Yosemite is a well-known National Park and it can have a particularly large sphere of influence in terms of missing this conversation forward. It serves a large variety of people, but how do we start to approach this diverse population in a way that will allow them to make a meaningful connection with Yosemite? What barriers are being unintentionally created and what do we not know?

In November of 2018, through support from our partners at Yosemite Conservancy, Yosemite National Park (YNP) hosted We.R.More: Workshop for Ethnic and Racial Minorities in Outdoor Recreation and Education, an innovative process that aimed to bring together California community members interested in working on improving relevancy, diversity, and inclusion (RDI) in the outdoor community. Two notable outdoor enthusiasts and conservationists, Jose Gonzalez, founder of Latino Outdoor and Teresa Baker, founder of the African American Nature and Parks Experience, facilitated a two day workshop where participants camped together and shared with each other the barriers they have experienced in the outdoors as people of color. In creating a safe space where participants could empower each other, these members were shaped into We.R.More Stewards of Yosemite.

Iris Hill, host of PBS series Hidden Hikes and We.R.More Steward shares, “We.R.More gave us a safe place to explore and share our struggles, fears, hopes, and aspirations. It allowed us to dream and envision together, as well as provided space for self-reflection. It opened doors to hurt and pain, while building bridges of unity, joy, and hope. It was during this time of searching, reflecting, and bonding, we discovered our united voice.”

The We.R.More Stewards then met with various park leaders and hosted a symposium for Yosemite staff that served as a cultural sensitivity training, but also suggested practical solutions to YNP in moving forward with its RDI efforts. During the symposium, Jose challenged Yosemite to think about what the sense of belonging and connection looks like, and what gap between a cultural space and outdoor conservation needs to be bridged? by tackling these two things, a lot of the tangible challenges can be overcome.

Stewards presented on the idea that the future of Yosemite not only relies on biological diversity, but also cultural values. Teresa shared her understanding that conversations hosted around racial and ethnic diversity are not comfortable, but if we don’t have them, we could have Yosemite to lose, we could have every outdoor space to lose. “If we do not help re-establish this connection, who is going to be around in 50 years to protect these spaces? We need more stewards of the land to protect the outdoors.”

“When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe.” - John Muir

Jamie Gonzales, Yosemite Valley resident, We.R.More Steward, and now Community Engagement Intern for YNP, shares, “Yosemite needs like-minded people seeking positive change to have the foundation, support and guidance to meet and see what can be done at the best interest of the park and visitors. There are always questions being asked of what can be done to enhance protection and visitor experience in the park and We.R.More is one way to invite people from elsewhere to help assess these issues. It’s a way for these issues to be looked at from an objective point of view with fresh eyes.”

Action items proposed by We.R.More Stewards for YNP included, but not limited to: maps in different languages so people have the ability to self-navigate comfortably, signage in other common languages, sharing untold stories in Yosemite’s history, educational programs in different languages, empowerment and retention of a more ethnically diverse workforce, and cultural sensitivity training for Yosemite National Park and park partners.

We can start these conversations by understanding what Relevancy, Diversity and Inclusion (RDI) mean. The NPS individually defines RDI as the following. Relevancy is achieved when all Americans are able to establish a personal connection to NPS parks and programs and find meaning and value in the mission of the NPS. Diversity represents the practice of actively incorporating people of different backgrounds, perspectives, thoughts and beliefs throughout the organization to ensure that NPS is advantaged by the best thinking possible. Diversity represents the wide range of visible and invisible differences and similarities that make each of us unique. Inclusion is the practice of intentionally building a culture that is flexible, values diverse ideas, and embraces the meaningful participation of all.

Since California is one of five states in the country where “minority” populations are now numerically the majority, these conversations are critical. To keep these public spaces important and sustain them, we need to connect people from all walks of life with National Parks. We need to ask ourselves, how are we working toward having Yosemite be more accessible to an ever changing and ever growing constituency? Welcoming ethnic and racial diversity, and accommodating other cultural backgrounds, opens up the opportunity for more people of color to gain experiences to cherish. In nature, there is not a “them” and “us.” It’s just “us.”

Mother Nature binds us all. Nature belongs to everyone.
Supporting Your Park

Enhance the Visitor Experience

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

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

The Ansel Adams Gallery

The Ansel Adams Gallery, owned by the family of photographer Ansel Adams since 1902, is a center that celebrates the arts and the natural grandeur of our environment. It cultivates an aesthetic appreciation and concern for our world’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 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

Yosemite Conservancy inspires people to support projects and programs that preserve Yosemite National Park and enrich the visitor experience. Thanks to generous donors, the Conservancy has provided $119 million in grants to the park to restore trails and habitat, protect wildlife, provide educational programs, and more. The Conservancy’s guided adventures, volunteer opportunities, wilderness services and bookstores help visitors of all ages connect with Yosemite. Learn more: yosemiteconservancy.org or (415) 434-1782.

Yosemite Volunteers: Serving Yosemite

Over 10,714 volunteers donated more than 139,520 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 Zero Landfill Initiative

Help make Yosemite the first Zero Landfill park in the country. Through the Zero Landfill Initiative, Yosemite is reducing the amount of trash sent to the landfill every year. In partnership with Yosemite Hospitality, we are making it easier to participate by adding more recycling containers with better labels.

Here are 3 things you can do to help:
1. Toss excess packaging before leaving home by repacking food in reusable containers.

Yosemite Name Changes

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

Lost and Found

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

Contact Us

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