Due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19, visitor services and access may be affected. For the safety of other visitors and employees, please comply with social distancing protocol. Check local resources for service hours and trail/access. For details, visit www.nps.gov/yose.

We encourage you to follow CDC guidance to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

- Practice social distancing by maintaining 6 feet of distance between you and others.
- Wear a face covering when social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
- Most importantly, stay home if you feel sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

The Yosemite Valley Shuttle System will not be operating during the 2020 season.
Things to Do

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

COVID-19 Coronavirus

PARK UPDATE

Due to ongoing impacts of COVID-19, visitor services and access may be affected. For the safety of other visitors and employees, please comply with social distancing protocol. Facility and area access and hours may be limited, check local postings for updates. Information on closures can be found on www.nps.gov/yose.

WELCOME

Ask A Ranger

There will be contact stations available for visitor information in Yosemite Valley, Mariposa Grove, Big Oak Flat, and Tuolumne Meadows. Look for signs to direct you to locations.

IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

The Ansel Adams Gallery

Photography Excursions

Yosemite is one of the great wonders of the Earth and we are here to help you capture it. Sign up for a half-day photography class, private guided tour, or a camera walk led by a resident staff photographer. Classes and walks are scheduled most days at 9am and 1pm. Private guides are first-come first-serve and require advance reservations. Excursions have been modified to limit group size and accommodate social distancing for guest safety. Call ahead for reservations (209) 372-4413 or visit anselandams.com/photography-education.

Walking and Hiking

From easy walks to Lower Yosemite Fall and Mirror Lake to strenuous hikes to the top of Yosemite Falls, Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. See page 5.

Bicycling

Experience 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, conditions permitting. See pg. 6 for hours. Bicycles are only allowed on paved roads and paved bike paths.

Yosemite Conservation Programs

Yosemite Conservancy programs are canceled through at least June 30. We’ve been working on ways to help you connect with Yosemite through nature videos, online art demonstrations, fun reading activities for kids, and more. Visit us online (yosemite.org) and follow us on social media (@yosemiteconservancy on Facebook and Instagram, and @yosemiteconservancy on Twitter) to find the latest resources from our team, learn more about our organization, and check out our event calendar.

Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center

The Sierra Club’s Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (YCHC) is closed for the 2020 season due to COVID-19. We apologize for any inconvenience. In June or July we may have evening programs online. Please visit the YCHC website: sierraclub.org/yosemite-conservation-heritage-center.

OUTSIDE YOSEMITE VALLEY - WAWONA

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 interpretive signs explain how Yosemite was the inspiration for national parks across America and around the world.

Mariposa Grove

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. Shuttles will not operate during the 2020 season, expect a two-mile, one-way walk to reach the grove. Interpretive signs provide a self-guiding tour once in the grove.

CRANE FLAT

Tuolumne Grove

The trailhead for this grove of approximately 25 mature sequoias is near the Big Oak Flat and Tioga Road intersection at Crane Flat. The moderately strenuous trail drops 900 feet (150 meters) in one mile. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. Bring drinking water.

Merced Grove

The Merced Grove, a group of about 20 mature trees, is a three-mile, round-trip hike. The trail drops 1.5 miles, making this a moderately-strenuous hike. Bring drinking water. The grove is located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trail is marked by a roadside sign.

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

Scenic Drive / Hikes

The drive through Tuolumne Meadows provides a glimpse of the High Sierra. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through sub-alpine meadows surrounded by granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week.

Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin, and Soda Springs

Two trails, both flat and 3/4-mile long, lead to this historic area. Soda Springs are small, naturally-carbonated springs that attract birds and deer, especially at sunrise and sunset.

Thank you for staying on the trail.
### 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 extended 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. 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.

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### Entrance Fees

**Non-commercial car, truck, RV, or van with 15 or fewer passenger seats (per person fee)**

- **Vehicle:** Valid for 7 days
  - $35/vehicle
- **Motorcycle:** Valid for 7 days
  - $30/motorcycle
- **Individual:** Valid for 7 days
  - $20 (in a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse)

**Yosemite Pass** $70
Valid for one year in Yosemite.

**Interagency Annual Pass** $80
Valid for one 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 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.

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### Reservations

**Campground Reservations**
(877) 444-6777
www.recreation.gov

**Lodging Reservations**
(888) 413-8869
www.travelyosemite.com

**Group Sales Office:** (888) 339-3481

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### Regional Info

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

**Highway 120 West**
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce
(800) 449-9120 or (209) 962-0429

**Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau**
(800) 449-9120 or (209) 962-0429

**Highway 41**
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
(559) 683-4636
www.yosemitehityear.com

**Highway 132/49**
Coulterville Visitor Center
(209) 878-3329

**Highway 140/49**
California Welcome Center, Merced
(800) 446-5353 or (209) 724-8104
www.yosemite-gateway.org

**Mariposa County Visitor Center**
(866) 425-3366 or (209) 966-7081

**Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau**
(209) 742-4567
www.yosemite.com

**Highway 120 East**
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center,
(760) 647-6629, www.leeving.com
Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. It is open year round and 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 or car, the scenery will leave you in awe and eager to see what’s around the next corner.

Glacier Point Road

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and Yosemite’s high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley 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.

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 information center to find out about hikes to Cathedral Lakes, Elizabeth Lake, Lembert Dome, or along the Tuolumne River through Lyell Canyon.

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. 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.
Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Valley

Information, Art, and Exhibits

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore
A visitor contact station will be available outside Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for visitor information and updates. Located in Yosemite Village.

YOSEMITE FILMS
Closed during the 2020 season.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM
Closed during the 2020 season.

INDIAN CULTURAL VILLAGE
Walk through the reconstructed Indian Village of Ahwahnee and learn about the structures the Ahwahnenee lived in and the plants they used for survival. Check out the interactive displays and see the ceremonial roundhouse, bark houses, and sweathouse members of the local tribes still actively use for ceremonies and special gatherings. Located behind the Yosemite Museum in Yosemite Village.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE
Closed during the 2020 season.

YOSEMITE RENAISSANCE - A CALL FOR ARTISTS
If you are an artist inspired by Yosemite and the California Sierra Nevada region, you can apply for Yosemite Renaissance 36! The call to artists begins July 1st 2020. Visit www.yosemiterenaissance.org to learn more.

This year, 69 works were chosen by 66 artists from across the globe, selected to inspire a new generation of people to understand, preserve and protect our wild lands and natural places.

The Ansel Adams Gallery
Open daily from 10am to 3pm. The gallery offers works by Ansel Adams as well as contemporary photographers, painters, and printers. Call (209) 372-4413 or visit www.anseladams.com for more information. The Ansel Adams Gallery is located in Yosemite Village near shuttle stops #5 and #9.

EXHIBIT
May 24, 2020 - July 11, 2020
Vagabonds to Icons: Photographs of Yosemite's Climbing Revolution

Since the 1950’s, Yosemite has been the epicenter of several revolutions in rock climbing. There have been many climbing achievements in Yosemite’s history that have amazed people worldwide. Warren Harding's first ascent of the Nose on El Capitan was, up until it happened, unfathomable. John Salathé and Yvon Chouinard innovated climbing safety gear to be more durable and sustainable in order to climb Yosemite’s big walls, which had an effect that spread across the globe. Even today, Yosemite still continues to be at the forefront. Tommy Caldwell and Kevin Jorgenson recently completed the Dawn Wall of El Capitan, the most technically difficult successful climbing route to date. Alex Honnold recently completed the first free solo ascent of El Capitan. Rock climbing has made its way into the mainstream, and Yosemite has been a big part of that journey.

From May 24 through July 11, The Ansel Adams Gallery is proud to exhibit photographs from climbing’s past and present. Featuring the work of artists including Glen Denny and Tom Frost, who were present in the early days of Yosemite climbing, and Corey Rich and Jimmy Chin, who hail from the modern era, From Vagabonds to Icons: Photographs of Yosemite’s Climbing Revolution explores the grand depth of Yosemite’s climbing history through the lens of a photographer.

NEW EXHIBIT
July 12 - August 22, 2020
SMART: Photographs from Phone to Print
Ansel Adams was a witness to the exponential growth in photography; by the end of his life, photography had evolved into a fine art, becoming a popular mode of artistic expression, with what he called “electronic [digital] photography” on the horizon. Blending all three of these facets, smartphone photography has made its mark. In the Gallery’s continuing tradition of honoring the exploration of contemporary artist’s into new avenues of photography, we are thrilled to present our first exhibit dedicated entirely to images made with the smartphone as the inventive lens. Beginning on July 12 and running through August 22, SMART: Photographs from Phone to Print will showcase multiple artists working in this adventurous and somewhat stigmatized method. We invite you to come see how an image made with your phone can ‘develop’ into a work of art.

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, see page 5.

- **Half Dome**, Yosemite's most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Cook’s Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, 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 and discover the thrill of the vertical wilderness on Yosemite's big walls.

- **Happy Isles** is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. Wander through the nearby fen or experience the outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite’s geologic story.

- **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, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall.

Want the Guide on your Apple or Android device?
Get the App!

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

**COVID-19 Coronavirus**
All available operations and hours of operations are subject to change as a result of COVID-19 and Social Distancing guidelines.

**Food and Drink**

**Yosemite Village**
- Degnans Kitchen: 7am to 6pm
- The Coffee Bar: 6am to 10:30am
- Sunday Brunch: (209) 372-1489

**Ahwahnee Bar**
- 11:30am to 11pm

**The Coffee Bar**
- 6am to 10:30am

**Sunday Brunch**
- (209) 372-1489

**Strongly recommended for dinner and requested for dinner. Reservations are appropriate attire is respectfully recommended for dinner.**

**Dining Room**
- The Ahwahnee Bar
- 11:30am to 11pm

**Village Grill**
- 7am to 6pm

**Mountain Room Bar**
- Monday - Friday: 4:30pm to 10pm
- Saturday & Sunday: Noon to 10pm

**Mountain Room Restaurant**
- Dinner: 5pm to 9pm

**Curry Village**
- Meadow Grill: 11am to 8pm
- Closed for renovations
- Pizza Deck: Closed for renovations
- Coffee Corner: Closed for renovations
- GLACIER POINT
  - Snack Stand: 9:30am to 3pm, conditions permitting

**Wawona**
- Wawona Hotel & Golf Shop: Closed for the 2020 season

**Tuolumne Meadows**
- Grill: 11am to 8pm, beginning May 29, conditions permitting
- Tuolumne Meadows Lodge Dining Room: Beginning June 5, conditions permitting
- Breakfast: 7am to 8am
- Dinner: 5:30pm to 8pm

**Groceries**

**Yosemite Valley Lodge**
- Village Store: 8am to 10pm
- Gift/Grocery: 8am to 10pm

**Curry Village**
- Gift/Grocery: 8am to 10pm
- Mountain Shop: 8am to 8pm

**Glacier Point**
- Gift Shop: 9:30am to 5pm, conditions permitting

**Wawona**
- Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop: 8am to 8pm
- The Depot at Mariposa Grove: Check local listings for service hours.

**Gas Stations**

**El Portal**
- 8am to 5pm
- Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

**Wawona**
- 8am to 6pm
- Diesel & Propane: Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

**Crane Flat**
- 8am to 7pm
- Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

**Post Offices**

**Yosemite Village (Main Office)**
- Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
- Saturday: 10am to noon

**Yosemite Valley Lodge**
- Monday - Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm

**El Portal**
- Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
- Closed for lunch 12:30pm to 1:30pm

**Wawona**
- Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm
- Saturday: 9am to noon

**Books, Gifts, & Apparel**

**Yosemite Village**
- Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore: at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
- Closed for the 2020 season

**Yosemite Museum Store**
- Closed for the 2020 season
- The Ansel Adams Gallery: 10am to 3pm

**Yosemite Valley Lodge**
- Village Store: 8am to 10pm
- Gift Shop: 8am to 9pm
- Sweet Shop: 7am to 10pm

**Recreation**

**Tour and Activity Desks**
- Yosemite Valley Lodge: 7:30am to 7pm, after-hours services available at the Lodge front desk.
- Village Store: 7:30am to 3:30pm
- Curry Village: 7:30am to 3:30pm

**Yosemite Valley Lodge**
- Bike Rentals: 8am to 7pm, conditions permitting
- Raft Rentals: Opening date dependent on water and weather conditions - 8am to 4pm
- Mountaineering School: 8am to Noon, 1pm to 4:30pm
- Yosemite Valley Lodge: Bike Rentals: 8am to 7pm, conditions permitting

**General Services**

**Medical Clinic** - Yosemite Valley (209) 372-4837 for emergency CALL 9-1-1
- Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm, Closed weekends and federal holidays

**Yosemite Village**
- Garage: 8am to noon, 1pm to 5pm
- Towing available 24 hours.
- Propane available until 4:30pm.
- Curry Village: Bike Rentals: 8am to 7pm, conditions permitting

**Shower House**
- Open 24 hours
- Housekeeping Camp
- Laundry: 8am to 10pm
- Shower House: 7am to 10pm

**Religious Services**

**Yosemite Community Church** (The Chapel)
- Pastor Brent Moore: Resident Minister

**Sunday Services**
- Morning Services: 9:30am (Year-round)
- Sunday Services:
  - 10:00am, conditions permitting
  - Catholic Mass
  - Thursday Night Services - 9:30pm

**Yosemite Community Church**
- (Non-denominational)
- El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am
- Info: (209)379-2100

**Yosemite Valley Chapel**
- (The Chapel)
- (209) 372-4831 • [www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org](http://www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org)
- Pastor Brent Moore: Resident Minister

**Services in Yosemite**

**El Portal**
- 8am to 5pm
- Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

**Wawona**
- 8am to 6pm
- Diesel & Propane: Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

**Crane Flat**
- 8am to 7pm
- Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

**Post Offices**

**Yosemite Village (Main Office)**
- Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
- Saturday: 10am to noon

**Yosemite Valley Lodge**
- Monday - Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm

**El Portal**
- Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
- Closed for lunch 12:30pm to 1:30pm

**Wawona**
- Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm
- Saturday: 9am to noon

**Books, Gifts, & Apparel**

**Yosemite Village**
- Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore:
  - at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
  - Closed for the 2020 season

**Yosemite Museum Store**
- Closed for the 2020 season
- The Ansel Adams Gallery:
  - 10am to 3pm

**Yosemite Valley Lodge**
- Village Store: 8am to 10pm
- Gift Shop: 8am to 9pm
- Sweet Shop: 7am to 10pm

**General Services**

**Medical Clinic** - Yosemite Valley (209) 372-4837
- for emergency CALL 9-1-1
- Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm, Closed weekends and federal holidays

**Yosemite Village**
- Garage: 8am to noon, 1pm to 5pm
- Towing available 24 hours.
- Propane available until 4:30pm.
- Curry Village: Bike Rentals: 8am to 7pm, conditions permitting
Choose your adventure

What better way to enjoy the beauty of Yosemite than on foot. Ask a ranger at any contact station for updated trail conditions and one of several free day-hike handouts. Excellent maps and guidebooks are also available for purchase at stores throughout the park.

Walking Yosemite Valley

We strongly recommend moving around the east end of Yosemite Valley on foot or bike if possible. On the map below, look for the large red circles that are connected by a red line. The numbers in the white circles show the average walking time between each destination, represented by the red circles.

PARK UPDATE

• We strongly recommend moving around the east end of Yosemite Valley on foot or bike if possible.

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.

COVID-19 Coronavirus

• Please practice social distancing protocol while walking on trails.
• Expect trail closures.
• Some trails may be re-routed to comply with social distancing protocol. Please comply with all posted signs.
Wilderness Permits
Wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Following adaptive management guidelines and the need to protect the health and safety of our visitors and employees, there will be no first come first serve (FCFS) permits issued in the park for 2020. The FCFS quota will be available through a rolling lottery using the advanced reservation system. Please go to www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits to check trailhead availability and for more information on how to apply for these permits. Reservations can be made online at yosemite.org/yosemite-wilderness-permit-request-form and by using our contact form at yosemite.org/contact-us-wilderness. A processing fee of $5 per permit plus $5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm. For backpackers more information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm. For more information on how to apply visit recreation.gov (recommended) or call (877) 444-6777 or TDD (877) 833-6777 or (518) 885-3639 from outside the US and Canada.

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS
The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center will have limited hours and services. Please check local sources or the park website for up to date information. The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center is located south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadows Lodge.

Half Dome Permit Information
Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up for 2020, May 22 through October 13, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 pre-season lottery permits have already been issued for 2020. In addition, approximately 50 permits will be released by daily lottery throughout the season based on estimated under-use and cancellation rates (exact number may change throughout the summer). Applications for daily lotteries will be accepted 2 days prior to the desired hiking date between midnight and 1pm. To apply, visit Recreation.gov or call (877) 444-6777. A non-refundable application fee applies to all submissions and a use fee applies to winning applicants. Finally, a daily quota of 75 Half Dome permits will be available to overnight users with an appropriate wilderness permit (use fee applies). For the 2020 season, Half Dome permits attached to a wilderness permit will only be available through the current wilderness reservation system. Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area may descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit. More information is available at http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm. For backpackers more information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm.

Camping
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 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 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.

Fire Prevention
• Prevent Wildfires! Follow all campfire rules and restrictions. A campfire should never be left unattended, it should be extinguished even if you are nearby in a tent. Always make sure your fire is dead out by pouring water on it, stirring with a tool, and feeling with your bare hand that it is cool to the touch. If it’s too hot to touch it’s too hot to leave!
• Instead of lighting a campfire consider using a pressurized gas portable stove for cooking and wear warm clothing to stay warm.
• Smoke is inevitable throughout the year in different parts of the park, whether from campfires, natural wildlife in the back-country, or prescribed fire. The park may also experience smoke impacts from other areas throughout the region. To help plan your trip look up the air quality page on the park’s website.
• Campfire smoke will linger in valleys with daily atmospheric changes. That’s why it is always important to follow the posted campfire rules.

COVID-19 Coronavirus
• Camping during the 2020 season will be by reservation only.
• There will be no walk-up service, campground offices will be closed.
• Some campgrounds will be closed.

General Camping Information
Services
All sites include picnic tables, firepits with grills, and a food locker (33” d x 45”w x 18”h). See page 9 for food storage regulations.
• Shower and laundry facilities are available 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 10pm to 6am.
• Where permitted, pets must be on a leash and may not be left unattended.

Campfires
• In Yosemite Valley between May 1 and September 30, campfires are permitted between 5pm and 10pm.
• Firewood collection is permitted within the boundaries of campgrounds in Yosemite Valley, and can otherwise be transported anywhere in the park that is outside Yosemite Valley, below 9,600 feet, and not in a sequoia grove.

Yosemite Guide Summer 2020
Protecting yourself...

ENJOYING YOSEMITE

Summer is a popular time to visit Yosemite; daylight hours are long, the weather is warm, plant and animal life are vibrant, and waterfalls are full. However, summer conditions present unique challenges which you must be aware of to have a safe and enjoyable visit.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Rain and melting snow can cause rivers and streams to flow fast and high. As temperatures increase, rivers and streams may become tempting, however, one may forget that the water was snow a few hours before and is just above freezing. Yosemite’s water is deceptively dangerous and unforgiving. Visitors are strongly urged to enjoy moving or falling water from a safe distance. Also, granite rocks and boulders near rivers and waterfalls, wet or dry, are extremely slippery. To avoid injury, stay on designated trails.

WEATHER

Prevent dehydration by carrying more water than you need. Sip lots of water throughout the day and frequently eat salty, easy-to-digest snacks. Make sure your hike or outdoor activity is half over before your water is half gone.

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 reach a building or car (with a hard top), thunder roars, go indoors.” If you cannot hear thunder. Follow the saying, “when

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.

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.

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.

FOR ALL SEASONS

• Let someone know – always leave travel and hiking plans, including intended routes and estimated time of return, with a trusted person.

PLAGUE

Plague is an infectious bacterial disease that is carried by squirrels, chipmunks and other wild rodents and their fleas. To protect yourself from plague, never feed wildlife, avoid dropping food when eating outside, avoid pitching a tent 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/yoursafety.htm

COVID-19 Safety Alert

The National Park Service encourages you to follow CDC guidance to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Practice social distancing. Maintain at least 6 feet of distance between you and others.

Wear a face covering when social distancing cannot be maintained.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.

Most importantly, stay home if you feel sick.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
Keep Bears Wild

With warmer spring weather, bears emerge hungry from hibernation. 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.

Drive the Speed Limit
The most common human-related cause of death for a black bear in Yosemite is being hit by a car. Slow down! Driving too fast is almost always the cause of these accidental deaths. Please report bear sightings by calling (209) 372-0322.

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— but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will be helping the bear become used to being around people. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed. Report bear sightings and incidents to the Save-A-Bear hotline (209)372-0322 or by emailing yose_bear_mgmt@nps.gov. For more information about bears in Yosemite please visit www.keepbearswild.org.

How to Store Food
"Food" includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This includes items you may not consider food, such as canned goods, bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unwashed dishes.

LOCATION
Your Vehicle
You may store food in your car (with windows closed) only during daylight hours. Do not store food in your car after dark: see a food locker. Remember to clear your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats.

Your Campsite or Tent Cabin
You must store all your food in food lockers—not in your tent or tent cabin. A food locker is available at each campsite and tent cabin. Food may be stored out of sight in hard-sided RVs with windows closed.

Picnic Areas & on the Trails
Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm’s reach. Don’t turn your back to your food.

Backpacking in the Wilderness
Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite. In Yosemite and the southern Sierra, bear canisters are the only effective and proven method of preventing bears from getting human food.

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, 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
• Collective 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.

E-BIKES
E-bikes with two or three wheels, fully operable pedals, and electric motors less than 750 watts (1 horsepower) are allowed on roads open to cars, as well as on Happy Isles Road and Mirror Lake Road. They are not allowed on bike paths or trails.

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, 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.

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.

...and Yosemite
For many, the photographs of Ansel Adams are a portal to a different world. Through Ansel’s striking images, the outdoors are transformed from an abstract concept—a world beyond our suburban cul-de-sacs or crowded city streets—into a reality. Here, in his photographs, are our lonely mountains, here are our rugged cliffs, here are our rushing rivers. There is perhaps no photographer in American history who stood for the ethos of stewardship for our shared environment as much as Ansel Adams, who over the course of his decades-long career did more than just introduce Americans to their wild places, but encouraged them to protect them.

Ansel made his first trip to Yosemite in 1916, when he was just 14. After a San Francisco childhood spent playing in the dunes behind the Golden Gate and the wind-swept shoreline at Land’s End, the young Adams had a keen eye for the romance of nature. As Ansel later wrote of his first impression of Yosemite, after weeks of boyhood anticipation:

“That first impression of the valley—white water, azaleas, cool fir caverns, tall pines and solid oaks, cliffs rising to undreamed-of heights, the poignant sounds and smells of the Sierra… was a culmination of experience so intense as to be almost painful.”

But his youthful time at the Le Conte Lodge didn’t just instill in Ansel a love for adventure. It introduced him to the vision and the aspirations of conservation. In spite of its name, the Sierra Club’s lodge isn’t really a lodge in the conventional sense. Rather than serving as a bunkhouse for hikers on the way to Mirror Lake or Yosemite Falls, the Le Conte Lodge was opened in 1904 to provide a public reading room and information to visitors of Yosemite National Park. The lodge educates thousands of visitors every year on the importance of respect for the Park’s wilderness, and on the Sierra Club’s preservationist goals. As custodian, Ansel was introduced to the Sierra Club’s founding mission “to explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth, and to educate humanity to do the same.

There was perhaps no more formative experience for Ansel, both artistically and personally, than his time spent as custodian. As David Brower, the first executive director of the Sierra Club, once wrote, “It is hard to tell which has shaped the other more—Ansel Adams or the Sierra Club.” Soon, Ansel began attending the High Trip, the Club’s annual outing of more than 200 people, then organizing the trips, and before long he was the Club’s official photographer. Gone was the teenager who bemoaned seeing others with him during his long summers in the park, thinking visitors to be “an intrusion or even trespass.” Instead, the artistic mission of Adams’ life became an educational one: to use his photography to introduce to others the joys of nature and the imperative need to protect it.

Throughout his long career, Ansel sought to make his art available to as many people as possible, knowing full well the emotional transportive power of his photographs. Throughout his long career, Ansel sought to make his art available to as many people as possible, knowing full well the emotional transportive power of his photographs.

Ansel Adams trekking in the high country on a Sierra Club outing. Courtesy of Adams Family Archives.
Supporting Your Park
Providing for Yosemite’s Future

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

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

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

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 lifelong 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 over $130 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: yosemite.org or (415) 434-1782.

Yosemite Volunteers: Serving Yosemite
Over 10,374 volunteers donated more than 139,500 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 National Park App
Want the Guide on your Apple or Android device? Get the App! Search NPS-Yosemite in app stores or at nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit to download the official park app BEFORE arriving to the park. See up-to-date listings of programs, services, an interactive map, and more!

Yosemite National Park App
iPhone/iPad Android
Looking for a Hiking Trail? Check out the TRAILHEADS tab, located within the SERVICES tab.