Experience Your America

Yosemite Valley

September 10 - 30, 2002

WHAT TO DO

Tuolumne Meadows

Parsons Memorial Lodge and Soda Springs

Discover the natural and human history of Tuolumne Meadows and hike to the place where John Muir and Robert Underwood Johnson conceived the idea of establishing Yosemite National Park. This area is easy 1/2-mile walk from Lembert Dome parking area or from the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. Allow 30 minutes walking time.

Evening Activities

Come to a campfire and take part in a tradition! Join a ranger for campfire, singing, storytelling, and answers to some of your questions about Yosemite. Program topics vary, and are posted at the campground, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. A campfire for children is scheduled Wednesday at the Commerce Circle in the "C" loop of the campground. End your day with a Star Program Bring a pad to sit on for the Star Program and dress warmly. Programs will be canceled if the sky is overcast.

Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center

Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Located just off the Tioga Road, along the roadway leading to Tuolumne Meadows, shuttle stop #3. Trail information, wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, maps, and guidelines available.

Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center

Through September 29, open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Park orientation, trail information, books, maps, and displays. Phone 209/372-0263.

Valley Visitor Center

Open 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Located in Yosemite Village just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #5 and #9). Information, maps, books, exhibits, and a multimedia One Day in Yosemite program. Open 10:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Visitor Center's newly remodeled West Auditorium Theater. Sign language interpreters are available at the Valley Visitor Center in English, Spanish, French, and German for hearing impaired speakers of English.

Features

Museum Gallery

Open 10:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. through September 15. Edges and Intersections, an exhibit honoring the 100th anniversary of Best's Studio (known today as Yosemite Museum). Designed for children and adults to discuss American Indian arts and crafts and books on related subjects.

The Ansel Adams Gallery

Open 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Displays interpret the cultural history of Yosemite's native Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present. Demonstrations of traditional skills are presented. No food or drink permitted.

Yosemite Museum Store

Open 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Offering traditional American Indian arts and crafts and books on related subjects.

The Indian Village of Ahwahnee

Located behind the Yosemite Museum and open during daylight hours. There is sometimes the opportunity to join Indian Cultural Program staff for demonstrations or programs about Ahwahneeberer skills and culture.

Yosemite Cemetery

This historic cemetery is located across the street and just west of the Yosemite Museum. People buried here include American Indians and others who played an important role in the development of what is now Yosemite National Park. A Guide to the Yosemite Cemetery is available at the Valley Visitor Center.

Wilderness Center

Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Located in Yosemite Village between The Ansel Adams Gallery and the post office. One-stop resource for backpackers in need of wilderness permits, bear canisters, maps, and guidelines. Displays and information on prepping, minimum-impact camping techniques, and Yosemite's wilderness.

The Ansel Adams Gallery

Open 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center. The gallery offers work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other fine artists. In addition, handcrafts, books, gifts, photography supplies, and camera/laptop rentals are available. For more information, call the Gallery at 209/372-4413 or visit website at anseladams.com.

Gallery Exhibit

August 19-September 30

This late summer exhibit will feature the color photography of Charles O'Neil, including new works highlighting the spring and summer seasons of Yosemite. Cramer is a recognized master printer now using the latest technologies to produce his fine art prints.

LeConte Memorial Lodge

Through September 25, open Wednesday through Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Located at shuttle stop #12. The LeConte Memorial Lodge, Yosemite's first public visitor center, is operated by the Sierra Club and features a children's center, library, and a variety of environmental education and evening programs. For more information, call 209/372-4542.

Yosemite Theater Live

Come help Yosemite Theater Live celebrate its 19th season! The National Park Service recognizes Yosemite Theater as the best interpretive program of its type in the National Park System. Tickets may be purchased at any tour desk in Yosemite Valley or if seating is still available, at the time of performance. Most shows are given in the East Auditorium located behind the Valley Visitor Center in Yosemite Village near shuttle stop #5. See Scheduled Events pages for dates and times.

Self-Guiding Trails

There are four self-guiding trails in Yosemite Valley:

The Miwok in Yosemite

is a short loop trail that winds through the Indian Village of Ahwahnee, a reconstructed Miwok-Paiute village. A booklet is available at the trailhead and in the Visitor Center. Large print materials are available in the Visitor Center for the visually impaired. The trail begins behind the Yosemite Museum.

A Changing Yosemite

is a 1-mile trail that begins in front of the Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5. It winds through Cook's Meadow and explores the changes that have led to the Yosemite we experience today.

Mirror Lake Interpretive Trail

is a short loop adjacent to Mirror Lake, a seasonal lake on Tenaya Creek. Exhibits focus on the rich natural history of the area, American Indian use, and history of this popular destination. To reach the start of the trail, walk 1 mile from shuttle stop #17 to the disabled parking spaces near the lake. The self-guiding trail begins here.

The Legacy of Curry Village

is an easy stroll commemorating the early days of Camp Curry. Pick up a map and guide at the Curry Village front desk or tour desk.

Help Keep Yosemite Bears Wild!

Did you know that during the fall bears must eat 20,000 calories daily to prepare for winter? That's about 1,650 acorns each day (130 chocolate bars for you or me)! Help keep Yosemite's bears wild. Be sure to store your food, drinks, toiletries, and any scented items according to park regulations while staying at Yosemite National Park. Look for Yosemite Valley programs about the amazing lives of bears.

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Cathedral Lake and Park can be reached on foot from Tuolumne Meadows via the John Muir Trail. Photo by Bryan Harry.
Free, informal outdoor classes in various art mediums are available for adults through the Art Activity Center, located at the east end of Yosemite Village next to the Village Store. Each day class begins at 10:00 a.m. and ends at 2:00 p.m.

### Free Art Classes
- **September 9-15**: Ben Kudo, Watercolor
- **September 16-22**: Pat Hunter, Watercolor
- **September 23-28**: Anne Longman, Pen/Pencil on Watercolor

### NPS Open House
**Saturday, September 21**
Stop by the East Auditorium (behind the Valley Visitor Center) between 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to learn about the latest Yosemite improvement projects.

### Programs printed in color are especially for children and their families.

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- **AAC = American Alpine Club**
- **AAG = The Ansel Adams Gallery**
- **YCS = Yosemite Concession Services**
- **YA = Yosemite Association**
- **YI = Yosemite Institute**
- **$ = Programs offered for a fee**

Indicates programs accessible for visitors in wheelchairs, with assistance.

### Scheduled Events

#### Sunday

- **7:30am**: **Sunrise Hike to Mirror Lake**
- **10:00am**: **Ranger Walk—Yosemite’s First People**
- **11:00am**: **Wilderness Quilt Project**

#### Monday

- **2:00pm**: **Ranger Walk—Trees**
- **4:30pm**: **75th Anniversary Ahwahnee Tour**

#### Tuesday

- **9:00am**: **Photography Walk**
- **10:00am**: **Ranger Walk—Granite and Ice**
- **4:30pm**: **75th Anniversary Ahwahnee Tour**

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**WHAT TO DO**

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- **September 21 and 28 only**: 1 hr. Abrahams patio (YCS)
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Crane Flat, Big Oak Flat, and White Wolf

Big Oak Flat Information Station
Open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Station is located just inside the park at the Big Oak Flat Entrance Station (Highway 120 West), and offers park orientation material, trail information, books, and maps. Phone: 209/379-1099.

Big Oak Flat Wilderness Center
Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through September 21. Located inside the Information Station. Wilderness permits, trail information, bear canister rentals, and limited map sales. After September 21, only self registration for wilderness use will be available at Big Oak Flat.

Yosemite’s Other Sequoia Groves
Tuolumne Grove
The Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias is near Crane Flat at the intersection of the Big Oak Flat Road and the Tioga Road. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from Crane Flat into the Tuolumne Grove of Big Trees, a cluster of about 25 sequoias. Now closed to cars, this 2-mile (3.2 km) round-trip has an elevation change of 500 feet (150 meters). The downhill walk is relatively easy, though it is moderately strenuous on the uphill return. Once in the Tuolumne Grove, there is an easy half-mile, self-guiding nature trail.

Merced Grove
Yosemite’s quietest stand of sequoias is in the Merced Grove, accessible only on foot. It’s a 2-mile hike into the grove from the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). Located 3.5 miles north of Crane Flat or 4.5 miles south of the Big Oak Flat entrance, the trailhead is marked by a posted brown sign. Allow 3 hours for the 4-mile round-trip hike to this group of about 20 sequoias.

Chilnualna Flat
Located by trail from the Mariposa Grove.

Wawona & Mariposa Grove

Tuolumne Grove

DISTANCE & ELEVATION

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>ELEVATION GAIN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Crane Flat</td>
<td>0.0 miles /1.6 km</td>
<td>0 feet / 0 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Grove</td>
<td>3.5 miles /5.6 km</td>
<td>500 feet / 150 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wolf</td>
<td>5.0 miles /8.0 km</td>
<td>1,500 feet / 452 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mariposa Grove</td>
<td>7.5 miles /12.0 km</td>
<td>2,500 feet / 762 m</td>
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<td>Mariposa Grove Tram</td>
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<td>0 feet / 0 m</td>
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<td>Yosemite Valley</td>
<td>12.0 miles /19.3 km</td>
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Glacier Point

Ranger Walks
Join a ranger for a walk to discover Yosemite’s unique, tucked-away places. See a pioneer cabin near a beautiful meadow, explore the red fir forest in the Canadian life zone, or hike to a seldom-seen waterfall.

Evening Programs
Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening shadows in Yosemite Valley and the alpenglow on the Sierra high country, or come for the sunset and stay for the moonrise. On some evenings, a park ranger will host a star program. Bring warm clothing. See Scheduled Events pages for dates and times.

Free Mariposa Grove & Wawona Shuttle Bus
The shuttle bus stops at the Wawona Store, South Entrance, and Mariposa Grove. Shuttle service operates daily beginning at 9:00 a.m. Last shuttle leaves Wawona at 5:00 p.m.; last shuttle leaves the Grove at 5:30 p.m. Visitors may park at the Wawona Store to board the shuttle bus. Due to narrow roads and very limited parking, visitors are strongly encouraged to use this free bus service to help alleviate congestion and lengthy parking delays.

Walking through the Grove
The trailhead for walking up through the Grove is located at the far end of the parking area. Interpretive signs between the trailhead and the California Trees provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead in Spanish, German, French, and Japanese.

Giant Sequoia displays open daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., running every 15 to 20 minutes from the boarding area.

Mariposa Grove Museum
Giant sequoia displays open daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Located in the Upper Grove. A sales area offering books, maps, and information is open weekends, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.