

Yosemite Guide

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

April 13, 2011 - May 24, 2011

Yosemite Valley, photo © Armand K. Williams, used with permission

April 13 to May 24, 2011

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Volume 36, Issue 3

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Guide April 13, 2011 - May 24, 2011

Year-round Route:

Valley Shuttle

Summer-only Routes:

El Capitan Shuttle

Express Shuttle

YARS Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System

Campground

Parking

Picnic Area

Restroom

Walk-In Campground

The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7 am to 10 pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run daily every 10 to 20 minutes depending on time of day. Overnight service available by calling 209/372-1001.

The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm, beginning May 21. Stop frequency posted at bus stops. No overnight service available.

The Express Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm, beginning May 21. Stop frequency posted at bus stops.

Stop #	Location	Stop #	Location	Stop #	Location
1 P1	Visitor Parking	8 YARS	Yosemite Lodge	16	Happy Isles
2 10	Yosemite Village	11	Sentinel Bridge	17	Mirror Lake Trailhead
3 YARS	The Ahwahnee	12	LeConte / Housekeeping Camp	18	Stable
4	Degnan's Deli	13a 21	Recreation Rentals	19	Pines Campgrounds
5 9 E1 P2 YARS	Valley Visitor Center	13b YARS	Curry Village	E3	El Capitan Picnic Area
6	Lower Yosemite Fall	14 20	Curry Village Parking	E4	El Capitan Bridge
7 E2	Camp 4	15	Upper Pines Campground	E5	Four Mile Trailhead

US Department of the Interior
National Park Service
PO Box 577
Yosemite, CA 95389

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Special Events Calendar

Please see page 5 of this Guide for regularly scheduled programs

Friday, April 15th

Earth Day Family Night, 7-8:30pm, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater (Cliff Room in inclement weather).

Join Park interpreters and educators for an evening of song, entertainment and fun. Launch Earth Day weekend off right! The evening includes a sing-a-long and a dramatization of The Lorax by Dr. Seuss.

Saturday, April 16th

A free shuttle will leave the Wawona Hotel at 8:30am to Yosemite Valley Earth Day events. Inquire at the Wawona Hotel front desk for more information.

Earth Day Village Celebration, 10:30am-2pm, Yosemite Village Mall
Wander between the Village Store and the Visitor Center where games, interactive activities and demonstrations allow you to experience how the park and its partners are implementing sustainability practices; Explore with National Park Service, DNC Parks and Resorts at Yosemite, Yosemite Institute, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Yosemite Conservancy and more.

Children’s Tent--Stop in for easy kid and earth-friendly crafts and face painting.

Earth-Friendly Product Fair --The Village Store sells 500 sustainable/organic products and about 30% of our health and beauty aids are also sustainable/organic. Stop by the Village Mall to visit with vendors and receive free samples.

National Volunteer Day Trash Pick up, 11am-noon and 1:30-2:30pm
Meet a park staff member in front of the Visitor Center to do your part and make the park a cleaner place to celebrate Earth Day.

Sustainable Salad Bar Tasting, 11:30am-1:30pm, In front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
DNC Parks & Resorts has a company-wide initiative to incorporate sustainable practices into all business decisions. Join us to sample some of the organic and sustainable foods used in DNC’s kitchens.

Universal Waste Collection, 12pm to 4pm
Stop by to the Village Recycling Center to drop off that old TV set, computer or spent fluorescent lamps. In addition, learn a bit more about universal and electronic waste.

Earth Day Cake & Lemonade, 1-2pm
Enjoy Earth Day Cake in front of the Valley Visitor Center!

Earth Day Family Walk, 2:30-3:30pm, in front of the Valley Visitor Center.
Bring the entire family for a short naturalist walk celebrating the details of Yosemite’s natural grandeur.

Fine Print Tour, 3-4pm, The Ansel Adams Gallery
Spend an hour with our gallery curator viewing some of the Ansel Adams original photographs in our inventory. In the spirit of Earth Day, curator Evan Russel will discuss Ansel’s early approach to photography and how it evolved into a conservation tool and an expression of Mr. Adams’ love of Nature. History of both The Ansel Adams Gallery and photography in the park will also be



Merced River dogwoods, NPS Photo

There’s a lot going on! Celebrate National Park Week, National Junior Ranger Day, Earth Week, and National Volunteer Day in Yosemite.

discussed, with time for answering questions throughout. Extremely limited space.

Children’s Storytime, 4-4:30pm, meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery.
Join the wonderful Dana Clark as she reads nature and earth inspired children’s books. No sign up is required. Children of all ages welcome but accompanied by an adult please.

Earth Day Theater Live! The Spirit of John Muir, 8-9pm, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater (Garden Terrace in inclement weather).
Who better to hear from as Earth Day approaches than one of Yosemite’s environmental heroes? Join Lee Stetson as he portrays John Muir for a free performance.

Sunday, April 17th

Photo Walk: Ansel Adams and the Yosemite Landscape, 9-10:30am, meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery.
Join The Ansel Adams Gallery for an interpretive walk to learn more about Ansel’s contributions to the environmental movement. Open to all levels, bring your camera!

Photography Class: In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams, 2-6pm, sign up at The Ansel Adams Gallery
Photographer Ansel Adams immortalized Yosemite National Park through his classic black & white images that pushed the popularity of landscape photography while helping to motivate the American environmental movement. Through the course of the class, you will visit a number of locations from where Ansel composed some of his most famous images. You will receive insight into Ansel’s life, photography and philosophies as well as basic lessons in photographic technique. \$

Fine Print Tour, 3-4pm, The Ansel Adams Gallery

Spend an hour with our gallery curator viewing some of the Ansel Adams original photographs in our inventory. In the spirit of Earth Day, curator Evan Russel will discuss Ansel’s early approach to photography and

Bumgardner, producer of the podcasts, and hear what it takes to film an active glacier in Yosemite or to track down the history of Horsetail Fall.

Thursday, April 21st

John Muir in the New World, 8-10pm, Yosemite Lodge
Celebrate John Muir’s birthday at a screening of the new documentary highlighting John Muir’s journey across the United States, and his impact on the land conservation movement both in the past and present.

Friday, April 22nd, Earth Day



Stewardship Project, 9am-noon, meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center.
Join park resource staff for an Earth Day restoration celebration. Help preserve and protect native habitat in Yosemite Valley and learn about the park’s resources management program. Help keep Yosemite’s ecosystem healthy and intact for the enjoyment of future generations! Volunteers must wear long-sleeves, long pants, and sturdy shoes or boots. Gloves and tools will be provided.

Book Signing with Scot Miller, 11am-1pm at The Ansel Adams Gallery
Stop by to get your autographed copy of “My First Summer in the Sierra” with text by John Muir and photographs by Scot Miller. Meet on The Ansel Adams Gallery porch.

Earth Day Bike Ride, 2-5pm, Advance tickets are required, space limited. Info/tickets at any tour desk.
Join Park staff for this fun and educational bike ride on Yosemite Valley’s bike paths to learn about the park’s environmental ethic. Cost is \$5/person, which includes bike rental (free if you bring your own bike).

Earthdance Film Festival, 7-9pm Yosemite Valley Theater
Celebrate Earth Day with the return of the Earthdance Film Festival to Yosemite! 90 minutes of short films celebrating the planet through drama, documentary, and humor. 2011 selections include a mixture of new short films as well as a few old favorites.

Saturday, April 23rd

National Junior Ranger Day
For more information and a schedule of events, see page 10 of the Guide!

Sunday, April 24

The National Parks: This is America, 8-9pm, Yosemite Lodge
Join Ranger Shelton Johnson for a screening of the prequel to Ken Burns “America’s Best Idea” series on National Parks. The film tells the story of the national park idea through the prism of our nation’s diverse population, weaving together stories of extraordinary people from a wide variety of backgrounds who devoted their lives to the national park ideal.

All special events are free unless otherwise noted.

Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees

Reservations are NOT required to enter Yosemite. The park is open year-round, 24 hours/day.

Vehicle \$20
Valid for 7 days

Individual \$10
In a bus, on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or horse. Valid for 7 days.

Yosemite Pass \$40
Valid for one year in Yosemite.

Interagency Annual Pass \$80
Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.

Interagency Senior Pass \$10
(Lifetime) For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.

Interagency Access Pass (Free)
(Lifetime) For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Reservations

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

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

Regional Info

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

Highway 120 West
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce
800/449-9120 or 209/962-0429
Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/446-1333
www.tcvb.com

Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
559/683-4636
www.yosemitethisyear.com

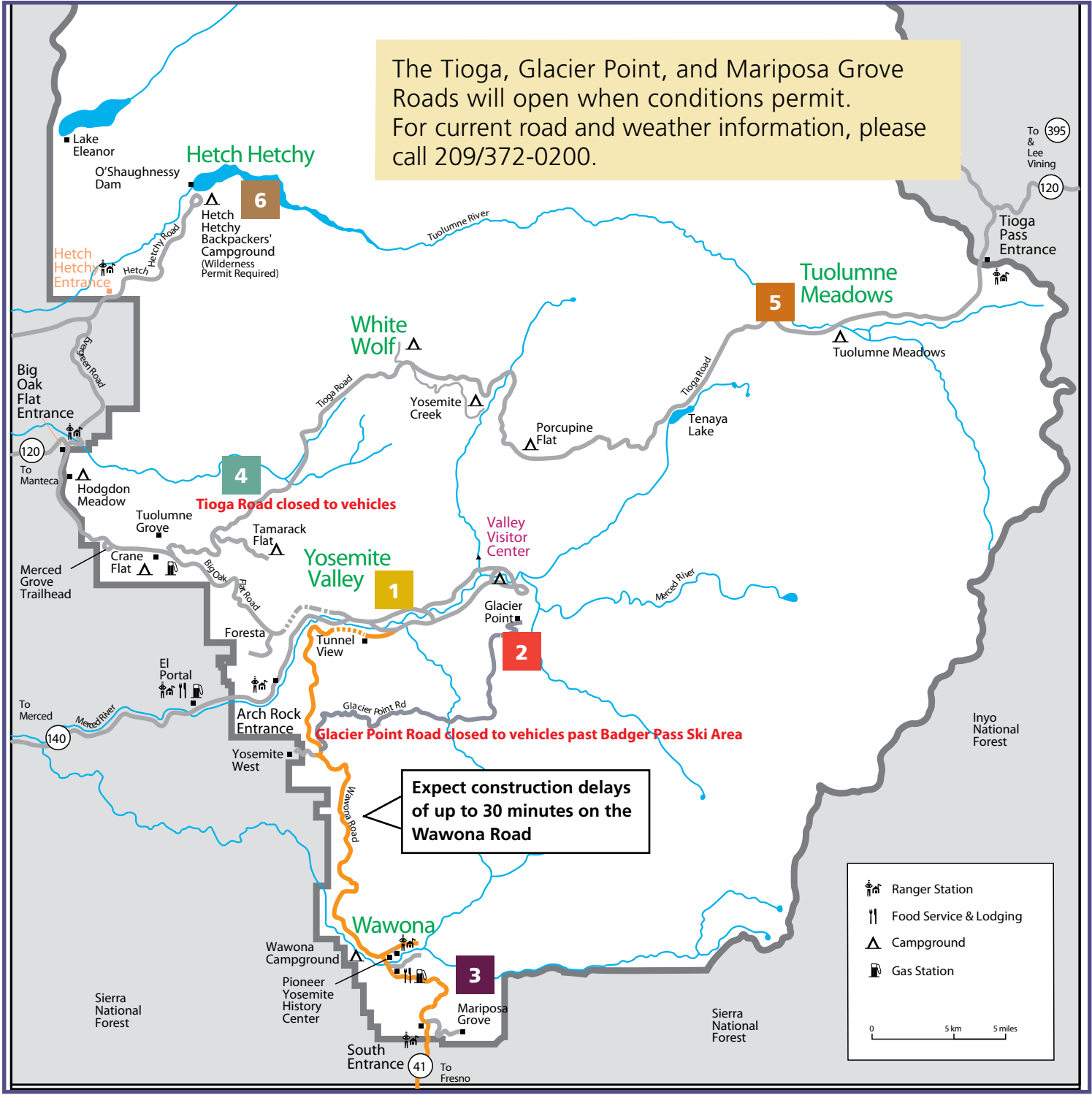
Highway 132/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
209/878-3074

Highway 140/49
Mariposa County Visitor Center
866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081

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

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

Calif. Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104
www.yosemite-gateway.org



Yosemite Valley

1 Iconic Yosemite Valley is known around the world 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, and Highway 120 west from Manteca. The Valley is known for massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, and its plunging waterfalls including Yosemite Falls, the tallest waterfall in North America. Take an easy stroll to the base of Lower Yosemite Fall or, if you're looking for a bigger challenge, hike to Vernal and/or Nevada Falls. Admire El Capitan, the massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the Valley by foot, bike, car, or with a tour, the scenery will leave you breathless and eager to see what's around the next corner.



Tunnel View, Spring. Photo by Katie Wallace

Glacier Point Road

2 Towering 3,214 feet above the Valley floor, Glacier Point offers spectacular views of the Merced River Canyon, including icons like Vernal and Nevada Falls and Half Dome. The Glacier Point Road, and campgrounds along the road, will open as conditions permit. You can get the latest road opening info at the Valley Visitor Center or by calling 209/372-0200.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

3 Located six miles from the park’s South Entrance or a one-hour drive from the Valley, the Wawona area tells the story of Yosemite’s human history and pioneer past. The charming 19th-century Wawona Hotel and the Pioneer Yosemite History Center are a history buff’s delight. The center is a collection of historic buildings associated with the people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite Interpretive signs and a brochure provide a self-guiding tour. Also in Wawona, you will find hikes of varying difficulty to places like Wawona Meadow and Chilnualna Falls, one of the tallest outside Yosemite Valley. The **Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias** is Yosemite’s largest stand of giant sequoias (about 500 trees). The road to the Grove is closed due to snow during the winter, and will open as conditions permit. When the road is open, trails wind through the giant trees, or you can take an open-air tram tour. There is a free shuttle to the grove on weekends, beginning April 23; daily operations begin on May 7(conditions permitting).

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

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

Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

5 Tioga Road, which links east and west segments of California Hwy 120, will be opened when conditions permit. Although Tuolumne Meadows is only a 1.5 hour drive (55 miles) from Yosemite Valley, it is a world apart. Climbing in elevation from 6,200 at Crane Flat to almost 10,000 feet at Tioga Pass, the road gives access to high country hiking and climbing. As the snow melts, hiking options increase. Campground and facility opening dates are dependent on snow conditions. Wilderness permits will be available at the Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center once the road opens.

Hetch Hetchy

6 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. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley via Highway 120 and Evergreen and Hetch Hetchy Roads. Hetch Hetchy Road is open limited hours: 8 am to 7 pm through Oct. 31; then 8 am to 5 pm through March 31. The road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is a 1 hour and 15 minute drive from Yosemite Valley. Trailers, vehicles over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not allowed on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.

Did you know?

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its award-winning environmental management program GreenPath, which began in Yosemite in 2001. **2010-11 GreenPath Highlights:**

- * DNC diverted 2,425 tons of waste from the landfill.
- * DNC’s diversion rate was 54%
- * 250 tons of organic waste was collected from DNC’s kitchens then composted at the Mariposa County Composting Facility.
- * 324 tons of storm debris was collected and hauled to a co-generation plant to generate electricity.
- * Kitchen grease is collected and processed into biodiesel.
- * 72 tons or 75% of the construction demolition from the recent Ahwahnee renovation projects was recycled or reused.



Half Dome and the Merced River Canyon from Glacier Point, Photo by Jeremy Day



Giant sequoias. Photo by Christine White Loberg



Sunset on the Sierra Crest Photo by David Jaffe



Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. NPS photo

Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas in the heart of the park



Upper Yosemite Fall in spring, Photo by Jeffrey Trust

YOSEMITE OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

The non-profit Yosemite Conservancy sponsors this year-round series of fun, educational field seminars; they’re a great way to deepen your connection to our park.

April 17 Photographing the Moonbow – A quest for an elusive phenomenon.

May 19-22 Spring Light Photography – Ken Rockwell, Dave Wyman and big water.

For more details, contact: www.yosemiteconservancy.org, or call 800/469-7275, ext. 316. Park entry and camping are included, motel rooms have already been set aside for these courses. The Conservancy also arranges Custom Adventures for individuals, families and groups: info@yosemiteconservancy.org.

The Incomparable Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley embraces one of the world’s most outstanding concentrations of waterfalls, granite walls, meadows, wildflowers, and trees. The Valley also harbors a rich collection of human stories, from American Indian lore to the birth of the National Park movement.

Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley, including naturalist programs and hiking possibilities. See pages 5-6 for more information on program topics and visitor services available. **Many Yosemite Valley day hikes are accessible year-round, although some have special winter routes or closures for your safety.**

The base of **Lower Yosemite Fall** is an easy walk from shuttle stop #6. This hike features educational exhibits and a picnic area, and is accessible to the mobility impaired.

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

El Capitan, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan.

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, Glacier Point, and Olmsted Point are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome.

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 or wander through outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite’s geologic story.

Shuttle buses may not travel to stop #16 when the road is snow-covered or icy.

For a strenuous day hike, you can use this trailhead to reach Vernal Fall footbridge ($\frac{3}{4}$ miles) and Nevada Fall (2.7 miles) via the John Muir Trail.

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

spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

To experience the Valley on foot, stop by a visitor center for a trail map and the most current trail conditions, or see below for a list of popular Valley day hikes.

Experience the Valley by bike! Bring your own, or by renting at Curry Village or Yosemite Lodge. Approximately twelve miles of paved bike trails on the Valley floor offer spectacular views! Rental offices are open 10 am to 5:30 pm; closed 1:30 to 2 pm for lunch.

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

TRAIL / DESTINATION	STARTING POINT	DISTANCE / TIME	DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION
Bridalveil Fall	Bridalveil Fall Parking Area	0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes	Easy
Lower Yosemite Fall	Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6	1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes	Easy
Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock	Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7	2 miles round-trip, 2–3 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Upper Yosemite Fall	Same as above	7.2 miles round-trip, 6–8 hours	Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain
Mirror Lake (A seasonal lake)	Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17	2 miles round-trip, 1 hour	Easy
Vernal Fall Footbridge, <i>winter route</i>	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16	1.4 miles round-trip, 1–2 hours	Moderate, 400-foot gain
Top of Vernal Fall, <i>winter route</i>	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16	3 miles round-trip, 2–4 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Nevada Fall, <i>winter route</i>	same as above	5 miles round-trip, 5–6 hours	Strenuous 1,900-foot gain
Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Closed in winter past Union Point)	Southside Drive	4.8 miles one-way, 3–4 hours one-way	Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain
Valley Floor Loop	Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6	13 miles full loop, 5–7 hours full loop	Moderate

Events and Programs

There’s lots more! Be sure to look throughout *the Guide* for special seasonal event schedules in addition to those listed here..

	YOSEMITE VALLEY	WAWONA
Sunday	<div>8:30am“Using your Digital Camera” Class. (Except April 17) 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$.</div> <div>9:00amAdventure Hike- Vernal/Nevada Falls 6 hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$</div> <div>10:00amRanger Walk – Rivers and Waterfalls 1 ½ hrs. Shuttle Stop #6 (NPS) </div> <div>12:30pmJUNIOR RANGER WALK 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)</div> <div>2:30pmSPRING FAMILY WALK (April 24th only) 1 hr, The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) </div> <div>6:00pmWEE WILD ONES 45 minutes, Stories and activities for kids 6 and under, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) </div> <div>8:00pmEvening Program (except April 17th) 1 hr, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC/NPS) </div> <div>8:00pmEvening Program LeConte Memorial Lodge 1hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC)</div> <div>May 1: Tom Bopp. John Muir & Teddy Roosevelt in Yosemite</div> <div>May 8: Dave Humphrey, YNP Branch Chief History/Architecture.Yosemite Update</div> <div>May 15: Yosemite’s Sister Parks in China with Pete Devine, Yosemite Conservancy Naturalist</div> <div>May 22: HIKING HALF DOME WITH RICK DEUTSCH</div> <div>8:00pmRanger Program (except April 17 and 24) 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) </div>	<div>8:00amCoffee with a Ranger (Except April 17, 24, May 1) ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) </div> <div>10:00amNature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (Except April 17, 24, May 1) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</div> <div>2:00pmNature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (Except April 17, 24, May 1) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</div> <div><div>Programs printed in ALL CAPS and in color are especially for children and their families!</div></div>
Monday	<div>8:00amSpringtime Bird Walk 2 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center, (YC) \$</div> <div>9:00amCamera Walk 1 ½ hrs. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel. (TAAG)</div> <div>10:00amRanger Walk – Yosemite’s First People 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS) </div> <div>5:30pmSpring Twilight Stroll 1 hr, The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) </div> <div>8:00pmEvening Program 1 hr, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC/NPS) </div> <div>8:00pmRanger Program (except April 18) 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) </div>	
Tuesday	<div>9:00amCamera Walk 1 ½ hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG)</div> <div>10:00amRanger Walk – Geology 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) </div> <div>10:00amArt Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center \$5 . Donation. Details on page 6 (YAEC)</div> <div>12:00pmYosemite Forum (May 10 only). 1 hr. Climate Change and Fire Ecology. Anthony Westerling, a professor at UC Merced. Yosemite Valley Auditorium</div> <div>2:00pm“Using your Digital Camera” Class. 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG). \$</div> <div>5:30pmSpring Twilight Stroll 1 hr The Ahwahnee back lawn (YC)</div> <div>6:00pmWEE WILD ONES 45 minutes, Stories and activities for kids 6 and under, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) </div> <div>8:00pmEvening Program 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC/NPS) </div> <div>8:00pmRanger Program (except April 19) 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) </div>	<div>5:30pmVintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs, Live music and historical interpretive programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC) </div>
Wednesday	<div>10:00amRanger Walk – Wild About Wildlife (except April 13) 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) </div> <div>10:00amArt Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center \$5 . Donation. Details on page 6. (YAEC)</div> <div>12:00pmWomen’s History Month Lecture, (May 20 only) Author Fernando Peñalosa speaks on “Making and Documenting Yosemite Women’s History: Ranger-naturalist Enid Michael & Historian Shirley Sargent.”Yosemite Valley Auditorium. (NPS)</div> <div>7:00pmYosemite Theater LIVE (begins May 4) “Conversations with a Tramp” with Lee Stetson. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$</div> <div>8:00pmEvening Program 1 hr, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC/NPS) </div> <div>8:00pmRanger Program (except April 13 and 20) 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) </div>	<div>5:30pmVintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs, Live music and historical interpretive programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC) </div>
Thursday	<div>8:00amSpringtime Bird Walk 2 hours Yosemite Art and Education Center, (YA) \$</div> <div>9:00amCamera Walk 1 ½ hrs. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG)</div> <div>10:00amArt Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center \$5 . Donation. Details on page 6 (YAEC)</div> <div>10:00amRanger Walk – Yosemite’s Legacy 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) </div> <div>2:00pm“In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams” Class. 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$</div> <div>5:30pmSpring Twilight Stroll 1 hr, The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC/NPS) </div> <div>6:00pmWEE WILD ONES 45 minutes, Stories and activities for kids 6 and under, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) </div> <div>7:00pmYosemite Theater LIVE (begins May 5). “Spirit of John Muir” with Lee Stetson. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$</div> <div>8:00pmEvening Program 1 hr, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC/NPS) </div> <div>8:00pmRanger Program (except April 14 and 21) 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) </div>	<div>5:30pmVintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs, Live music and historical interpretive programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC) </div>
Friday	<div>9:00amVolunteer on Earth Day! (April 22 only) 1-3 hrs. Join a Park Ranger for a restoration stewardship project. Wear long sleeves, long pants and close-toed shoes. Meet in front of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS)</div> <div>10:00amRanger Walk – Trees 1 ½ hrs. The Ahwahnee, shuttle stop #3 (NPS)</div> <div>10:00amArt Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center \$5. Donation. Details on page 6. (YAEC)</div> <div>1:30pmYOSEMITE VALLEY SCHOOL STUDENTS: CONSERVATION & THE THREE LITTLE PIGS (May 20 only) LeConte Memorial Lodge 1/2hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC)</div> <div>7:00pmYosemite Theater LIVE (Begins May 6) “Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey” Followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$</div> <div>8:00 pmEvening Program LeConte Memorial Lodge 1hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC)</div> <div>May 6: AMERICAN INDIAN STORYTELLING & FLUTE WITH BEN CUNNINGHAM-SUMMERFIELD, YNP INTERP. RANGER</div> <div>May 13: Tom Arfsten. Meet Galen Clark: Yosemite Guardian</div> <div>May 20: Christine Loberg, YNP Interp. Ranger. Inspiration for Yosemite Preservation.Yosemite Artists</div> <div>8:00pmRanger Program (except April 15 and 22) 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) </div> <div>8:00pmEvening Program (except April 15th & April 22nd) 1 hr, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (NPS/TAAG) </div> <div>8:30pmNIGHT PROWL (Except April 15th and April 22nd) 1 ½ hrs, Explore Yosemite at Night! Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ </div>	<div>2:00pmNature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (Except April 15, 22, 29, & May 6) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</div> <div>5:30pmVintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs, Live music and historical interpretive programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC) </div>
Saturday	<div>9:00amBike to Hike Tour 2½ hrs. Curry Village bike stand Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$</div> <div>9:00amCamera Walk 1½ hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery.(TAAG)</div> <div>10:00amJUNIOR RANGER WALK 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)</div> <div>10:00amArt Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center \$5 . Donation. Details on page 6. (YAEC)</div> <div>11:00amCelebrate National Volunteer Day! (April 16 only) 1 hr. Join park staff on a guided litter clean up and informative walk. Meet in front of the visitor center. (NPS)</div> <div>1:00pmDiscovery Hike- Columbia Rock 3½hrs. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$</div> <div>1:30 pm.Celebrate National Volunteer Day! (April 16 only) 1 hr. Join park staff on a guided litter clean up and informative walk. Meet in front of the visitor center. (NPS)</div> <div>2:00pmRanger Walk –Bears 1 ½ hrs. Curry Village Amphitheater (NPS)</div> <div>2:00pm“Using your Digital Camera” Class 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$.</div> <div>3:00pmFine Print Tour 1 hr. Very limited space. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)</div> <div>5:30pmSpring Twilight Stroll 1 hr, The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC/NPS) </div> <div>7:00pmYosemite Theater LIVE (Begins April 16) “Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey” Followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$</div> <div>8:00 pmEvening Program LeConte Memorial Lodge 1hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC)</div> <div>May 7: Visit to Muir Woods with Stephen Joseph, Photographer</div> <div>May 14: Yosemite. Season through Photography with Jeremy Evans</div> <div>May 21: Music & the Mountains with Chris Waltz</div> <div>8:00pmEvening Program (except April 16th) 1 hr, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC/NPS) </div> <div>8:00pmRanger Program (except April 16 and 23) 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) </div> <div>8:30pmNIGHT PROWL (Except April 16th) 1 ½ hrs, Explore Yosemite at Night! Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ </div> <div>8:30pmSTARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (May 7th only) 1-1 ½ hrs, Celebrate International Astronomy Day while learning about the night sky with us! Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$ </div>	<div>8:00amCoffee with a Ranger (Except April 16, 23, 30, & May 7) ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) </div> <div>10:00amNature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (Except April 16, 23, 30, & May 7) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</div> <div>2:00pmNature Walk in the Mariposa Grove (Except April 16, 23, 30, & May 7) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</div> <div>5:30pmVintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs, Live music and historical interpretive programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel Lounge (DNC) </div>

- NPS

National Park Service
- DNC

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.
- AAG

The Ansel Adams Gallery
- YC

YosemiteConservancy
- YAEC

Yosemite Art Education Center
- YMS

Yosemite Mountaineering School
- \$

Programs offered for a fee

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/accessibility.htm.

Accessible parking spaces are available just west of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

To reach these, enter the Valley on Southside Drive. Turn left on Sentinel Drive. Turn left on Northside Drive, and follow the blue and white signs.



A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Call 209/372-0296 to request an interpreter. Advance notice of at least 2 weeks is requested.



Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advance request. Inquire at a visitor center.

Visitor Services

Yosemite Valley



Dogwoods, Yosemite Valley, *NPS Photo*

Yosemite Valley offers great activities and programs for the whole family.

Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

Visitor center and bookstore hours are 9 am to 5 pm, just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #5 and #9). The center offers information, maps, and books in the attached bookstore. Explore the new exhibit hall and learn how Yosemite’s spectacular landscape was formed, how people have interacted with it through the centuries, how wildlife adapts and survives, and how your national park continues to evolve.

FILM: SPIRIT OF YOSEMITE
This inspiring visitor-orientation film is shown every 30 minutes, Monday - Saturday between 9:30 am and 4:30 pm, and Sunday between noon to 4:30 pm in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

Yosemite Cemetery

This historic cemetery is located just west of the Yosemite Museum, across the street. *Guide to the Yosemite Cemetery* is available at the Valley Visitor Center.

Wilderness Permits

The Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center will open April 29th and the hours will be 8am to 5pm. Wilderness permits, bear canisters, and a variety of maps and books are available. Until April 29th, wilderness permits and bear canisters can be obtained at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center seven days a week from 9am to 5pm.

Yosemite Museum

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

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

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

YOSEMITE MUSEUM GALLERY
The Yosemite Renaissance XXVI exhibition opened on Saturday, February 26, 2011 at the Yosemite Museum Gallery. The exhibit continues through May 1. It includes 42 paintings, photographs, sculptures and prints selected from among over 550 competition entries.

Ansel Adams Gallery

The gallery is located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center and is open daily from 10-6 pm. (9-6 p.m. starting April 18th) The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other fine artists.

EXHIBITS
•April 18th – May 25th New Exhibit: “Reflections on Yosemite” New and classic photographs by Michael Frye. Reception: May 7: 3-5pm.

•April 21 and April 22, 11am-1pm: Book Signing with Scot Miller. “My First Summer in the Sierra” with text by John Muir and photographs by Scot Miller. Meet on The Ansel Adams Gallery porch.

•April 22, 11am-1pm: Book Signing with Mike Osborne “Granite, Water and Light: The Waterfalls of Yosemite Valley.” Photographs and text by Mike Osborne. Meet on The Ansel Adams Gallery porch.

Yosemite Art and Education Center

Open daily 9am-4:30 pm (closed for lunch 12-1)

Enjoy our display of original Yosemite art or join an Art Workshop for an unforgettable experience. The Yosemite Art and Education Center, located next to the Village Store, offers a series of art workshops Tuesday through Saturday. Suggested donation for each student \$5 a day. These workshops are designed for adults and children over 12 , children under 12 may come with a responsible adult. Students need to bring their own art supplies, or they may be purchased at the Art Center. For more information, call

209/379-1442. See page 5 for specific program times.

FEATURED ARTISTS
•April 12-16: Thor Ericson, Yosemite in Watercolor
•April 19-23: Bob Magneson, Drawing Yosemite
•April 26-30: Annie Lawrence: Book Box & Block: blockprinting
•May 3-7: Carolyn Fitz: Sumi-e ink painting
•May 10-14: Fealing Lin: Watercolor; Fresh & Loose
•May 17-21: Sonja Hamilton SWA Watercolor: Waterfalls and Dogwoods
•May 24-28 Janice Powell Shedd : Yosemite Watercolor

Information on our classes is also available on line at <http://www.yosemiteart.blogspot.com>.

Happy Isles Nature Center

(Shuttle stop #16) Happy Isles Bookstore/Exhibits will be open Friday-Sunday April 23/24 & April 30/May 1, from 9:30am - 5:00pm.

Starting May 2nd, the Exhibits will be open Monday - Thursday, from 10 - 4 (May close for lunch), and the Bookstore/Exhibits Friday-Sunday 9:30am - 5:00pm.

Tours

Motor coach sightseeing tours are available in Yosemite Valley year-round. To experience the Valley with a guide, take the Valley Floor Tour. This 2-hour tour departs several times daily from Yosemite Lodge. During winter, tours travel by motorcoach, while warm-weather tours are offered on open air trams.Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at tour/ transportation desks at the Yosemite Lodge.



POST OFFICE
Yosemite Village
Main Office
Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
Saturday: 10am to noon
Yosemite Lodge
Post Office
Monday-Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm
El Portal
Post Office
Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
closed for lunch from 12:30 to 1:30
Wawona Post Office
Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm
Saturday: 9am to noon

BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL
Yosemite Village
The Ansel Adams Gallery
10am-6pm, 9am - 6pm starting April 18
Yosemite Bookstore
Inside Yosemite Visitor Center
9am to 5pm
Yosemite Museum Store
9am to 5pm
Village Store
8am to 9pm
Habitat Yosemite
11am to 4pm Thurs.-Sun. only
Sport Shop
10am to 5pm

The Ahwahnee
The Ahwahnee Gift Shop
8am to 9pm
The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop
7am to 10pm
Yosemite Lodge
Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm
Nature Shop
10am to 7pm

Curry Village
Mountain Shop
8am to 6pm
Curry Village Gift/Grocery
8am-8pm

Housekeeping Camp Grocery
Open 12-6 April 29, weather permitting, then 8am to 6pm.

Wawona and the Mariposa Grove
Store & Pioneer Gift Shop
8am to 6pm
Big Trees Gift Shop
Opens April 23, conditions permitting, open 9am to 5pm

Hours listed are core hours for facilities and may be extended during periods of peak visitation. Check local postings for changes to hours of operation.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Yosemite Village
Degnan's Delicatessen
7am to 5pm
Village Grill, opens April 2
11am to 5pm (weather permitting)
Degnan's Loft, open April 1
5pm to 9pm

The Ahwahnee
Dining Room
Breakfast: 7am to 10:30am
Lunch: 11:30am to 3pm
Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm,
Sunday Brunch: 7am to 3pm
Appropriate attire respectfully requested for dinner. Reservations recommended for dinner and Sunday Brunch, required for Mother's Day Brunch (May 8): 209/372-1489.
The Ahwahnee Bar 11am to 11pm
The Coffee Bar 7am to 10:30am

Yosemite Lodge
Food Court
Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm
Dinner: 5pm-9pm
Mountain Room Lounge
4:30pm to 11pm (Mon.-Fri.)
Noon - 11pm (Sat.-Sun.)
Mountain Room Restaurant
Sunday - Thursday 5:00pm to 8:30pm
Friday - Saturday 5:00pm to 9:00pm
Reservations taken for 8 or more. 209/372-1403
BRUNCH 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Easter Sunday (April 24th) and Mothers Day (May 8th) only. Reservations recommended, 1-801-559-4935

Curry Village
Pavilion Buffet
Breakfast: 7am-10am
Dinner: 5:30pm to 8pm
Pizza Deck
5-9pm Monday-Friday, noon to 9pm Saturday and Sunday. Beginning April 30 open daily Noon to 10pm
Coffee Corner
Open daily 7 to 11am. Open daily from 6am to 10pm with ice cream service beginning May 14.
Taqueria
Open from 11am to 5pm beginning April 16

Wawona
Wawona Hotel Dining Room
Breakfast: 7:30am to 10am
Lunch: 11:30am to 1:30pm
Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm, Reservations taken for parties of 6 or more.
Sunday Brunch: 10:30-1:30pm Easter Sunday (April 24) and Mother's Day (May 8) only, reservations recommended, 209/375-1425
Saturday BBQs: 5-7pm, beginning May 14 (weather permitting)
Lounge Service: 5pm-9:30pm

GROCERIES

Yosemite Lodge
Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm
Yosemite Village
Village Store
8am to 9pm
Degnan's Delicatessen
7am to 5pm
Curry Village
Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm
Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop
8am to 6pm
Crane Flat Store
9am to 5pm

GAS STATIONS

El Portal
9am to noon, 1pm to 5pm
Diesel available. Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

Wawona Gas Station
8am to 6pm. Diesel & propane.
Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Crane Flat
9am to 5pm. Diesel and propane.
Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.

OTHER SERVICES

Wawona Golf Course
9am to 5pm, weather and conditions permitting
Wawona Golf Shop and Snack Stand
9am to 5pm when Golf Course is open

Visitor Services

Beyond Yosemite Valley

Wawona

The Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio opens Friday, May 6, 2011 and will be open daily from 8:30am to 5pm, offering visitor information, wilderness permits, bear canisters rentals, and a variety of books and maps. Until May 6th, wilderness permits can be obtained by self registration on the porch of Hill's Studio and bear canisters are available for rent at the Wawona Store.

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 explains how Yosemite inspired national parks across America and around the world. The center is open throughout the year.

Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park's largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees. The road to the Grove will open when weather permits.

Getting to Mariposa Grove

Allow an hour's driving time to reach the grove's access road from the Valley.
Dogs and bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Grove.

Crane Flat & Hetch Hetchy

Big Oak Flat and North Entrance
The route enters the park on California Hwy 120. Yosemite's north region is often uncrowded, and offers lesser-known gems including the giant sequoia groves near Crane Flat, and the trails and waterfalls of Hetch Hetchy.

The Big Oak Flat Information station



Giant Sequoias, Photo by Christine White Loberg

SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY

Curry Village
Showers
Open 24 hours
Housekeeping Camp
Showers
Open 7am to 10pm starting April 28
Laundromat
8am to 10pm

GENERAL SERVICES

Village Garage
NO GAS AVAILABLE IN YOSEMITE VALLEY
8am to 5pm Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4pm. 209/372-8320

Yosemite Medical Clinic, located on Ahwahnee Drive in Yosemite Valley, is scheduled to reopen in Spring of 2011. Until reopening, a triage station will be staffed from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with paramedics on call 24 hours per day. Park medical staff will assess and transport emergency cases. A telephone near the clinic facility can be used to call for medical assistance after hours. The Yosemite Medical Clinic phone number, 209-372-4637, will be answered by NPS staff to assist with emergency medical inquiries. Visitors can also call 911 for emergency medical services.

Dental Services
Adjacent to Yosemite Medical Clinic. For hours, call 209/372-4200. If no answer, call 209/372-4637

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH (Yosemite Chapel) 209-372-4831, Pastor Brent Moore
www.yosemitevalleychapel.org
SUNDAY SERVICES

9:15 AM (Sunday School and Nursery available).
6:30 P.M. Sunday Evening Service/Bible

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDIES

Women's Bible 6:30 PM call chapel for location
Men's Bible Study - Chapel 6:30 PM

THURSDAY MIDWEEK SERVICE, 7:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES, Sunday April 24th

7:00 A.M. Lower Pines Campground
9:15 A.M. Chapel Service (Sunday School)
11:00 A.M. Chapel Service

ROMAN CATHOLIC
SUNDAY LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS:
Saturday, 6:00 pm, (beginning April 30)
Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater

opens Friday, May 13, 2011 and will be open daily from 8am to 5pm, offering visitor information, wilderness permits, bear canisters rentals, and a variety of books and maps. Until May 13th, wilderness permits can be obtained by self registration on the porch of the Big Oak Flat Information Station. Please come prepared with your own allowed bear canister.

Merced Grove

Yosemite's quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of about 20 trees. It's a four-mile round-trip hike from Big Oak Flat Road.

Tuolumne Grove

This cluster of about 25 sequoias is near Crane Flat. The path drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The trip is moderately strenuous.

Tuolumne Meadows

Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center

Opening date pending. When open, hours are 9 am to 5 pm.

Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin, and Soda Springs

Two trails, both flat and 3/4 mi. long, lead to this historic area.

Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center

The center is scheduled to open along with Tioga Road. Hours will be 8 am to 4:30pm, with a daily closure for lunch. Hours may vary depending on conditions. Wilderness permits, bear canisters, information, books, and maps are available. The center is located just as you turn onto the Tuolumne Lodge Road.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Visitor Center Theater

Sunday, 6:00 p.m. (Spanish), Cedar Lodge, El Portal

For Information call 209-372-4729, email olsyos@gmail.com

CHURCH OF CHRIST (NONDENOMINATIONAL)
El Portal Chapel/Worship: Sunday 11 am
Foresta Road, at top of Chapel Lane
Information: 209/379-2100

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
7:30 pm Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday
DNC General Office Building
(Employee Training Center) Yosemite Village

Call Dave M.at 209/765-1266. for more information or if you need to speak to someone.

LIONS CLUB
Meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at noon, The Ahwahnee. Call 209/372-4475.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
Meets Thursdays for lunch at noon in The Ahwahnee Mural Room. Visiting Rotarian families and guests welcome. For meeting reservations or information, call 209/372-8459.

Protecting yourself...



Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

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

Around Ice and Water

- Stay off of frozen lakes, rivers and streams and away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards.
- Never swim or wade upstream from the brink of a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Each year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.
- Swimming is prohibited in Emerald Pool (above Vernal Fall) and in the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir.

Avoid Hypothermia

Spring temperatures can drop into dangerous territory with little warning, and require a high degree of preparation and training. Be prepared to shelter overnight even when out just for the day. Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

Avoid the combination of wetness, wind, and cold. Know symptoms of hypothermia. Carry emergency fire-starting materials and food. Avoid dehydration; carry and drink plenty of water and carry emergency high-energy food.

Water Quality

To protect yourself from disease, treat any surface water before drinking. Treatment methods include boiling for five minutes, use of a Giardia-rated water filter, or iodine-based purifier. To prevent the spread of Giardia and other water-borne disease organisms, use restroom facilities where available, and always wash hands afterwards with soap and water. In natural areas where facilities are not available, wash, camp, and bury human waste at least 100 feet away from any water source or trail, burying human waste six inches deep and pack out any toilet paper.

Traffic Safety

Roads leading to the park are two-lane, narrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by observing the following simple rules: Please obey posted speed limits. Yosemite’s roads are used by both

visitors and park wildlife. Use turnouts to pull completely out of the road, to take photos, consult the park map, or simply enjoy the park’s scenery and wildlife.

Effects of Altitude

Altitude sickness may develop in otherwise healthy and fit people who are exposed to rapid increases in altitude. It can develop at altitudes as low as 8,000 feet (Yosemite Valley’s elevation is 4,000 feet). Should altitude sickness develop, descend to a lower elevation.

Hiking, Backpacking, Backcountry Snow Travel, and Rock Climbing

While a trail may start out snow free be prepared for patches of snow or for the snow to become continuous. Summer trails are not marked for winter use. Hikers may lose the trail when crossing a stretch of snow and subsequently become disoriented while searching for the trail. Stay oriented by using landmarks and a map.

- Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.
- Carry and know how to use a map and compass.
- Check weather forecasts. Snow can occur with little warning, and can make route finding very difficult.
- Avoid dehydration or heat exhaustion; carry and drink plenty of water, and bring high-energy food.
- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.
- Thoroughly check snow bridges for integrity before crossing streams.
- During spring months rising air temperatures can quickly melt snow creating fast flowing creeks that become a barrier to the entry or exit of certain areas.

Wilderness Permit Information

Wilderness permits are required year round for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Permits are issued and bear canisters are available for rent in Yosemite Valley (see page 6) and at the Hetch Hetchy Entrance

Station during hours of operation. Wilderness permits are also available at the Hill’s Studio in Wawona and at the Big Oak Flat Information Station (see page 7). Self registration permits are available at the Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station until the Tioga Road opens for the season. Call the park’s main phone line at 209/372-0200, or check the web at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm, for additional information. For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Check the park’s website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740.

Half Dome Permit Information

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are now required seven days per week when the cables are up (in 2011, May 27 to October 10, conditions permitting). This is an interim measure to increase safety along the cables while the park develops a long-term plan to manage use on the Half Dome Trail.

Permits for May and June will become available on March 1; July, on April 1; August, on May 1, September, on June 1; and October on July 1. Permits are not available in the park or on a first-come, first-served basis.

You may obtain a permit to hike Half Dome by visiting www.recreation.gov or by calling 877/444-6777. Up to four permits will be available per web session or phone call. Each permit has a service fee of \$1.50.

Backpackers with an appropriate wilderness permit can receive a Half Dome permit when they pick up their wilderness permit. Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area can descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit.

More information is available at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm.

...and Yosemite



Coyote, Yosemite Valley Photo by Caitlin Lee-Roney

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 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.

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—although 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 209/372-0322. Your call can be made anonymously.

For more information regarding bears and proper food storage, visit the park’s website (www.nps.gov/yose/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 roadsides to beg for food, endangering both coyotes and drivers.

If you see a coyote during your visit to Yosemite, consider yourself lucky. Spend some time watching its natural behavior from a distance (at least 50 yards).

Yosemite Guardians
Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park’s most important guardians. With nearly 4 million people watching over its special plants, animals, historic, and archeological sites, imagine how well-protected these park resources could be!

During your visit to Yosemite be aware that there are people who either unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

- Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Collecting plants
- Hunting animals
- Collecting reptiles and butterflies
- Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Biking off of paved roads
- Camping outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities

If you see activities that could harm people or park resources, jot down any descriptions or a vehicle license plate number and call the park dispatch office at 209/379-1992.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm and find a copy of the Superintendent’s Compendium. This document is a compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions made by the superintendent, in addition to what is contained in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7 and 34), and other applicable federal statutes and regulations.



Weather in Yosemite

Dressing in layers and bringing plenty of water (even during cooler months!) will help you stay safe through Yosemite’s changing weather conditions. As is true of all mountainous regions, weather in the Sierra Nevada can change rapidly in any season of the year. Elevation plays a major role in temeperature and precipitation variability, and Yosemite ranges in elevation from 2,000 feet to more than 13,000 feet above sea level. Temperatures in winter can range well below freezing up into the 60s during the day. Shady spots on trails and roads can remain icy even during the warmth of the day.

Celebrating Stewardship

Taking care of Yosemite for generations to come

Making a Difference: Volunteers in Parks

Lindsay Prell, Volunteer Program Assistant



Yosemite will observe National Volunteer Day on April 16th 2011, and this year we have a lot to celebrate! Yosemite is home to the second largest volunteer program in the National Park System, engaging nearly 9,000 volunteers each year. These volunteers come from all over the country, and in some cases, all over the world, to share their time and talents with the park. On any given day, you might find a volunteer staffing the visitor center, picking up litter along the trails, working on a wildlife management crew, or welcoming campers. Participants range in age from elementary school-aged scout troops or college students to retirees... and all ages in between. Our popular group volunteer program still has projects available for 2011. If you have a group of at least five, you could help pull invasive plants in the meadows, pick up litter or work on a building deconstruction project.



Conifer removal efforts with Yosemite Resource Management and Science Staff, Sierra Club Service Trip, 2009. NPS Photo.

Special volunteer events such as National Volunteer Day, Apple Picking Day and The Yosemite Facelift bring out hundreds of volunteers to serve together for a common cause. If you are interested in learning more about the volunteer program and opportunities to serve, please visit our website: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm>, or call the Yosemite's Volunteer Office: 209-379-1850.

- In 2010, volunteers donated over 170,000 hours of service to Yosemite.
- 172,307 pounds of litter and debris were removed from the Park during the five-day Yosemite Facelift volunteer event in 2010, 80% of which was recycled.
- Between 60 and 70 college interns serve each year in Yosemite, many of whom are later hired as seasonal employees.
- Volunteers wear tan shirts with volunteer logos on them. If you see one around the park, feel free to say "thank you"!
- Yosemite Institute's students participate in a service component of their stay in the park. Over four thousand hours are donated to the park by YI students each year.
- The Yosemite Conservancy partners with the park to host over 300 volunteers each year.
- The Yosemite Conservancy's Weed Warriors program installed 370 ft of fencing around the restoration area at Degnan's Deli in 2010.

Starting Small: Junior Rangers

National Park Service Interpretive Staff



Can you...

- Point out and give characteristics of ten trees in Yosemite?
- Tell the principle values of forests?
- Point out the four principle minerals found in granite?
- Name and identify twenty-five different flowers?
- Name and identify five Yosemite reptiles?
- Point out forty points of interest around Yosemite Valley?
- Identify the following: ant lion, termite, swallow-tail butterfly, grasshopper, wasp, dragon-fly, moth, and ladybird beetle?

If you had attended of the Yosemite Junior Nature School you could! Organized in June 1930 and lasting until 1954, eager young naturalists could attend a week-long summer session in the park. At the end of their week, Junior Naturalists could answer all the above questions, and 20 more!

While the week-long Junior Naturalist program no longer exists in Yosemite, (and the test is no longer required!) Junior Rangers are turning out by the thousands to learn about how to care for their park and the history, flora and fauna within. In 2009, more than 27,000 children became Yosemite Junior Rangers (with 15,000 in 2008 and 6,000 in 2007).

National Junior Ranger Day will be celebrated this year on April 23rd. Come to Happy Isles (shuttle stop #16) and join the fun!
Adult accompaniment required for all activities.

10-11am National Junior Ranger Day Walk, all ages welcome

Noon-4pm: Exploration Fair
Drop by the fair any time to explore some of the ways people are working to protect the Park. Talk with a cultural demonstrator to learn about Ahwahneechee traditions. Get to know the park's search and rescue team, rangers on horseback, and wilderness rangers to name a few of the special guests.

2-3pm Wee Wild Ones
Bring your younger Jr. Rangers to hang out with a naturalist in this interactive program. Recommended for ages 6 and under

3-4pm Junior Ranger Walk
Join a park ranger on an interactive walk to learn more about how weather, climate, and changes are working on the wildlife and landscape of Yosemite.

8pm National Parks in the Sky: Ranger Slide Presentation-Yosemite Lodge



NPS Photo

Supporting Your Park

Providing for Yosemite's Future

Enhance the Visitor's 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.anseladamsgallery.com



DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite (DNC) operates hotels, restaurants, sightseeing tours, recreational activities, interpretive programs, stores, shuttles and service stations in the park under contract with the U.S. Department of the Interior. DNC encourages its employees to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure. For

more information and employment opportunities with DNC at Yosemite, visit online at www.YosemitePark.com



Yosemite Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy is the non-profit formed by a merger of the Yosemite Association and The Yosemite Fund. The Conservancy has a long history in Yosemite with over 100 years of combined experience supporting the park. Yosemite Conservancy can make the difference you see around you because we are the only philanthropic organization that is dedicated exclusively to Yosemite.

Our mission remains the same: Providing for Yosemite's future is our passion. We inspire people to support projects and programs that preserve and protect Yosemite National Park's resources and

enrich the visitor experience.

The Yosemite Conservancy has funded over 300 projects through 60 million in grants to help preserve and protect the park. The work of the Conservancy can be found in every aspect of the visitor experience from trail restoration, bear-proof lockers, wilderness permits, wildlife preservation, outdoor education and so much more. Annually the Yosemite Conservancy recruits over 400 volunteers to work in the park to repair trails, remove invasive species, and provide visitor information.

For more information, visit park bookstores or go online at yosemiteconservancy.org



Providing For Yosemite's Future

Yosemite Institute

Since 1971, thousands of school-age children have benefited from learning in "nature's classroom" through the residential field-science programs offered by Yosemite Institute (YI). A YI experience strives to foster a life-long connection to the natural world—whether it is in Yosemite, on a city street or in our own backyards. YI also offers professional development for teachers, summer youth programs, backpacking adventures, community outreach programs and service learning projects. For more information, visit www.yni.org/yi.



Contact Us

Yosemite National Park

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<http://www.nps.gov/yose/contacts.htm>

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209/372-4413
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www.anseladams.com

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite

PO Box 578
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Yosemite Conservancy

155 Montgomery Street, St. 1104
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Yosemite Institute

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Send email comments and questions about the Yosemite Guide to YOSEGuide@nps.gov

Want to get involved?

Join park and partner staff to learn about projects and plans at a free monthly public Open House! Open Houses will be held at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Auditorium on: **April 27, 2011, from 1pm to 4pm** and **Wednesday, May 25, 2011 from, 1pm to 4pm.**

Also, the Merced River Plan (MRP) team will host a series of workshops and a science forum this spring. These workshops are a chance to find out more about the conditions of the river's Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs) and management considerations that will need to be addressed in a successful Merced River Plan.

April 22	Hydro/Bio/Geo Workshop	1-4 pm	Garden Terrace Yosemite Lodge
April 26	Transportation workshop	1-4 pm	Garden Terrace Yosemite Lodge
April 27	Cultural Resource Workshop (Open House)	1-4 pm	Valley Auditorium
April 29	User Capacity	8am-4:30 pm	Garden Terrace Yosemite Lodge
May 13	Science Forum	9 am-2 pm	Garden Terrace Yosemite Lodge
May 25	Recreation Workshop (Open House)	1pm-4pm	Valley Auditorium

Park fees are waived for those attending. For more information, visit us on the web at www.nps.gov/yose.

Above right: Half Dome. Photo: Christine White Loberg