





# Seasonal Highlights

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

What do you want to do with your special time in Yosemite? Whether you want to get your heart rate up with a strenuous hike, read a book in a quiet spot, or just hang out in a picnic area or campground with friends, in summer and fall, the days are long and the possibilities abound!

**Walk to a Waterfall**

Yosemite Valley is famous for its awe-inspiring waterfalls; each as distinct as the granite cliffs they dive over. While Yosemite Falls may be dry by August, Bridalveil, Vernal, and Nevada Falls flow all year. Be safe! Water ways, including rivers, streams, and lakes, can be dangerous.

**Visit the other valley, Hetch Hetchy**

Hetch Hetchy provides spectacular vistas, waterfalls, and miles of hiking opportunities. You can help protect this important watershed during your visit. Day-hikers and backpackers are required to go to the bathroom at least 100 feet away from water, trails, and camp areas. Bury human waste six inches deep and pack out toilet paper and all other trash.

**Travel Back in Time**

Visit Wawona’s Pioneer Yosemite History Center and join “Buckshot” for a horse-drawn stage ride! These 10-minute rides introduce you to an early chapter in Yosemite’s history. Fun for the whole family. (See pages 8 and 9 for history center and other program information.)

**Take a Photography Class**

Learn how to best capture the landscape of Yosemite by joining a photography expert from The Ansel Adams Gallery. Several classes are offered each week. Learn more and sign up at The Ansel Adams Gallery located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 6 and 7 for times and meeting places.)



Half Dome NPS Photo

## Get outside and enjoy your park!

Summer offers spectacular views of waterfalls, great hiking, and endless other opportunities for recreation.

**Stroll with a Ranger**

Learn about the wonders of the park on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily throughout the park on a variety of topics including waterfalls, trees, bears, geology, wildlife, Yosemite’s first people, and more. (See area program grids on pages 6, 7, 9, and 11.)

**Yosemite Art Center Workshops**

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching and fun art workshops held Monday-Saturday in Yosemite Valley. There is a registration fee of \$10 per visitor. Register in advance by calling 209/372-1442. Workshops take place at the Yosemite Art Center located next to the Village Store. Art supplies, gifts and original art are available for purchase. Open daily 9am-4:30pm (closed at 12pm for lunch). See page 6 for details.

**Have Fun with the Family**

Learn about Yosemite, meet a park ranger, and have a blast by becoming a Yosemite Junior Ranger or Yosemite Little Cub. Check in with any visitor center to find out how. Stop by the Nature Center at Happy Isles for another great place to explore with the family. (See page 12 for more!)

**Go to the Theater**

Yosemite Theater LIVE! presents compelling live performances every night! Celebrate Yosemite’s history Sundays with park ranger Shelton Johnson as Sargent Elizy Boman in *The Forgotten Yosemite: A Buffalo Soldier Remembers*. *Yosemite Search & Rescue* delivers gripping stories every Tuesday. Veteran performer Lee Stetson performs *Conversation with a Tramp: An Evening with John Muir* on Wednesdays and *John Muir Among*

*the Animals* Thursdays. Legendary climber Ron Kauk presents the award-winning film *Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey* every Friday & Saturday. Purchase tickets at Yosemite Conservancy Bookstores or Tour & Activity Desks. See page 6 for details.

**Get Outdoors With Yosemite Conservancy**

Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing Yosemite’s wonders. Create your own Miwok-Paiute basket with Yosemite legend Julia Parker or hone your photography skills with a professional Yosemite photographer. Looking for a custom Yosemite experience? Contact us to plan a custom adventure for your family or group. Visit [www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures) or 209/379-2317 ext. 10 to find your adventure today. See page 6 for details.

**Volunteer in Yosemite**

Over 9,500 volunteers donated more than 187,000 hours of service to Yosemite last year, restoring native habitat, working in visitor centers, serving as camp hosts, studying wildlife, cleaning up litter and more. Would you like to serve? We have group and individual volunteer opportunities, both short term and long term. Learn more at: [www.nps.gov/yose/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm) or call the volunteer office at 209/379-1850.



## 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](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm), or call a park accessibility coordinator at 209/379-1035 for more information.



Sign language interpreting is available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors upon advance request. Please contact the park’s deaf services coordinator (209/379-5250) (v/txt) to request an interpreter. A public videophone is available at Yosemite Lodge. Assistive Listening Devices are available at the Valley Visitor Center. Audio tours are available for the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an accessibility coordinator for more information.



Accessible parking spaces are available just west of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. To reach these, enter the Valley on Southside Drive. Turn left on Sentinel Drive. Turn left on Northside Drive, and follow the blue and white signs.

**Emergency Information**  
**Emergency Dial 911**

Yosemite Village Garage offers 24-hour emergency roadside assistance

**For up-to-date road, weather, and park information: 209/372-0200**

Medical Clinic (in Yosemite Valley) Open 7 days per week from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM for primary and urgent care needs. Phone: 209/372-4637

Dental Clinic (In Yosemite Valley) 209/372-4200

**Lost and Found**

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

### What’s Inside:

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# 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.

**Interagency Military Pass (Free)**  
(Annual) For active duty U.S. military and dependents.

## Reservations

**Campground Reservations**  
877/444-6777  
[www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

**Lodging Reservations**  
801/559-5000  
[www.yosemitepark.com](http://www.yosemitepark.com)

## Regional Info

**Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)**  
[www.yarts.com](http://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](http://www.tcvb.com)

**Highway 41**  
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau  
559/683-4636  
[www.yosemitethisyear.com](http://www.yosemitethisyear.com)

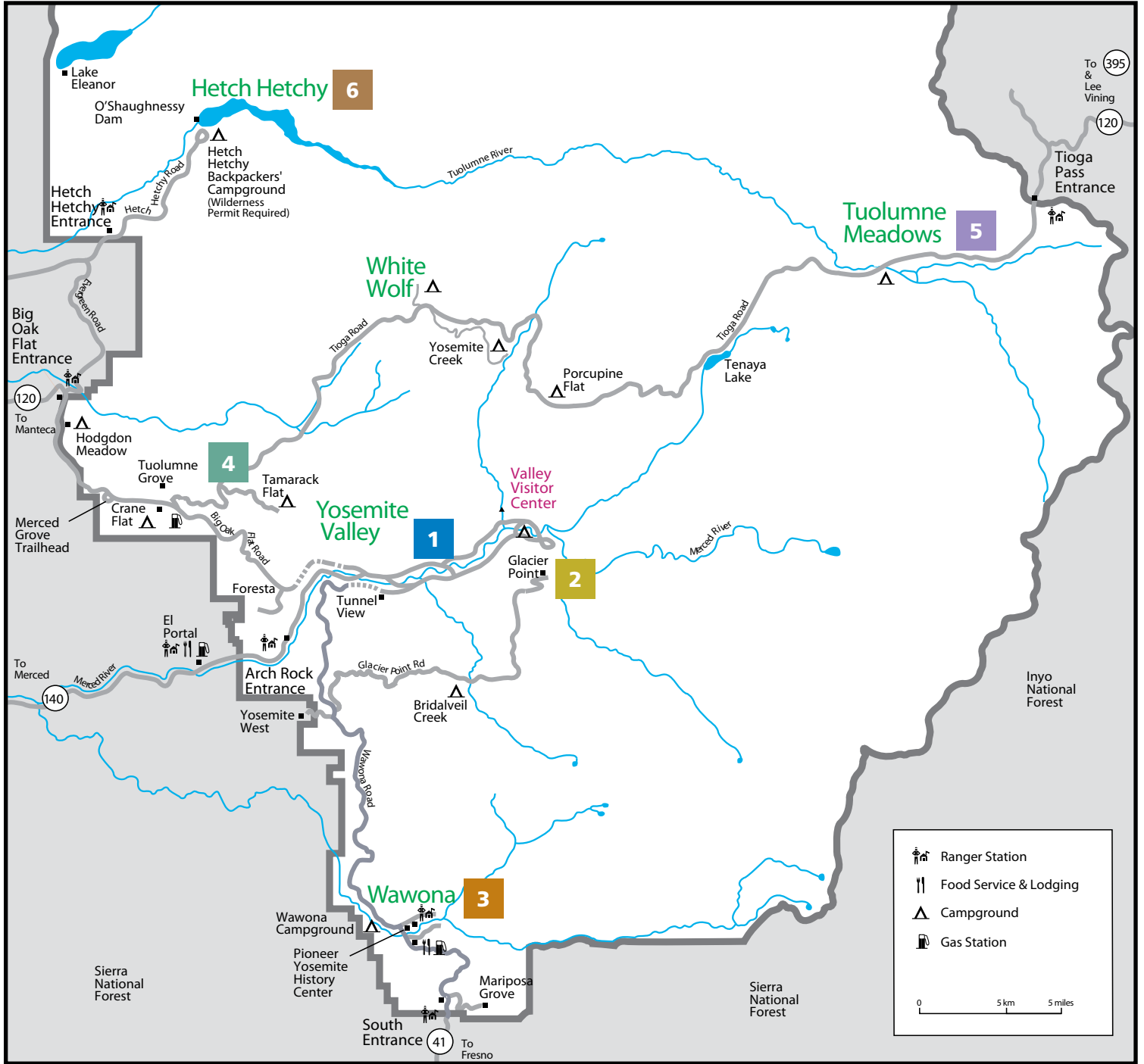
**Highway 132/49**  
Coulterville Visitor Center  
209/878-3074

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

**Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau**  
209/742-4567  
[www.yosemiteexperience.com/](http://www.yosemiteexperience.com/)

**Highway 120 East**  
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center, 760/647-6629  
[www.leevining.com](http://www.leevining.com)

**Calif. Welcome Center, Merced**  
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104  
[www.yosemite-gateway.org](http://www.yosemite-gateway.org)



## Yosemite Valley

**1** Yosemite Valley, open all year, is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. You can get there via State Route 41/Wawona Road from Fresno, State Route 140/El Portal Road from Merced, State Route 120 west/Big Oak Flat Road from Manteca, and (during summer) via the Tioga Road/State Route 120 east from Lee Vining. Yosemite Valley is home to massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls slows to a trickle by August, a moderate hike will bring you to the impressive Vernal and Nevada Falls. Walk to Mirror Lake, where you will see reflections of Half Dome. Gaze up at El Capitan, a massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the valley by foot, bike, car, on horseback, raft, or tour, you will behold scenery that will leave you breathless and eager to see what's around the next corner.



Mirror Lake and Mount Watkins. Photo by Christine White Loberg



## Glacier Point

**2** Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the 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 (State Route 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.



View from Glacier Point. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Wawona and Mariposa Grove

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



The Mariposa Grove Museum. Photo by Pam Meierding

## Tioga Road and Tuolumne Grove

**4** 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 sometime in November. The road’s elevation ranges from 6,200 to nearly 10,000 feet, so it offers an opportunity to experience many of Yosemite’s habitats. 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 the 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.



Cathedral Peak. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Tuolumne Meadows

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



Bridge over the Tuolumne River at Tuolumne Meadows. Photo by John Sun

## Hetch Hetchy

**6** Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the city of San Francisco, is also home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. Due to its importance as a municipal water supply, no swimming is permitted, however. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open 7 am to 9 pm May 1 through Labor Day, with reduced hours during the rest of the year. Hetch Hetchy Road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is approximately a 1 ¼-hour 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.



Hetch Hetchy. Photo by Erik Skindrud



Mule Deer NPS Photo by Christing White Loberg



Look for the free **Yosemite Guide Mobile App** available Fall, 2013 for your Apple and Android mobile devices!

Our thanks to The Ansel Adams Gallery Staff Photographer and Curator Evan Russel for providing our icon shot of Half Dome.

*App funded by a generous grant from Yosemite Conservancy donors*



# Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas and the heart of the park



Valley View in Fall NPS Photo by Christine White Loberg

## 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. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery. See pages 5, 6, and 7 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

#### Naturalist Programs

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

#### Walking and Hiking

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

#### Bicycling

Several miles of bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Lodge or Curry Village. Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

#### Tours

Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Lodge. Tours may be weather dependent.

The **Valley Floor Tour** is a 26-mile, two-hour open-air tram tour narrated by a park ranger (weather permitting). The tour departs Yosemite Lodge several times daily.

The **Glacier Point Tour** leaves Yosemite Lodge at 8:30 am, 10 am, and 1:30 pm daily when the Glacier Point Road is open. One-way tickets are available for those who want to hike down from Glacier Point.

The **Grand Tour** includes the Valley, Glacier Point, and the Mariposa Grove. An experienced guide narrates each tour. The tour departs Yosemite Lodge at 8:45 am daily.

Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at the tour desks at Yosemite Lodge, Yosemite Village, Curry Village, and The Ahwahnee.

#### Mule & Horseback Rides

Horse or mule rides begin at the stable near North Pines Campground. Stable hours are 7am to 5pm daily. Information: 209/372-8348 (reservations strongly recommended).

#### Sightseeing

Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley 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 17).

- **Half Dome**, Yosemite’s most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook’s Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, and Glacier Point, are just a few locations with 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.
- **Happy Isles** is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16 or by walking from Curry Village. Cross the footbridges onto the isles or wander through outdoor and indoor exhibits detailing Yosemite’s geologic story.
- **Tunnel View**, along Wawona Road (SR 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

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 Loft**  
5pm to 9pm (Closes for the season Sept 8)  
**Degnan’s Delicatessen**  
7am to 5pm  
**Village Grill**  
11am to 5pm  
**The Ahwahnee**  
**Dining Room**  
Breakfast: 7am to 10am  
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm  
Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm  
Sunday Brunch: 7am to 2pm  
Appropriate attire respectfully requested for dinner. Reservations strongly recommended for dinner. 209/372-1489  
**Ahwahnee Breakfast Bar**  
7am to 10:30am  
**The Ahwahnee Bar**  
11:30am to 11pm  
**Yosemite Lodge**  
**Food Court**  
6:30am to 8:30pm  
Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am  
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm  
Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm  
Grab and Go only, 7:30pm to 8:30pm  
**Mountain Room Lounge**  
Monday – Friday  
4:30pm to 11pm  
Saturday – Sunday  
Noon to 11pm, food service until 10pm  
**Mountain Room Restaurant**  
5:30pm to 8:30pm  
Reservations taken for 8 or more. 209/372-1281  
**Curry Village**  
**Coffee Corner/Ice Cream**  
6am to 10pm (7am to 11am beginning Sept 15)  
Ice Cream service 11am to 10pm (closes for the season Sept 14)  
**Curry Village Bar**  
Noon to 10pm (Sunday - Thursday 5pm to 10pm and Friday - Saturday noon to 10pm starting Sept 15)  
**Pavilion**  
Breakfast: 7am to 10am  
Dinner: 5:30pm to 8pm  
**Pizza Deck**  
Noon to 10pm  
**Meadow Grill**  
11am to 5pm (closes for the season Sept 22)  
**Happy Isles Snack Stand**  
11am to 5pm weather permitting

#### BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

**Yosemite Village**  
**The Ansel Adams Gallery**  
9am to 6pm  
**Yosemite Art Center**  
9am to 4:30pm *closed for lunch at 12pm*  
**Yosemite Bookstore**  
**Inside Yosemite Visitor Center**  
9am to 7pm, *Information desk open 10am to 6pm*  
**Yosemite Museum Store**  
9am to 5pm  
**Valley Wilderness Center**  
8am to 5pm  
**Village Store**  
8am to 9pm  
**Habitat Yosemite**  
Thursday - Sunday 11am to 4pm  
**Sport Shop**  
10am to 5pm  
**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**  
9am to 5pm  
**Curry Village Gift/Grocery**  
9am to 7pm  
**Nature Center at Happy Isles**  
**Exhibits**  
10am to 4pm (Closes for the season Sept 30)



# Yosemite Valley

Where to go and what to do



Cultural demonstrator Maggie Howard and Ranger Bert Harwell behind the museum with a group of visitors, 1931

## Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center is open from 10am to 6pm, and bookstore hours are 9am to 7pm. The visitor center is just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #5 and #9). The facility offers information, maps, and books. Explore the exhibits to learn how Yosemite’s landscape formed and how people interact with it.

### FILM: SPIRIT OF YOSEMITE

This inspiring visitor-orientation film provides a stunning overview of Yosemite’s splendor. It is shown every 30 minutes, Monday through Saturday between 9:30 am and 5:30 pm, and Sunday between noon and 5:30 pm in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

## Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center.

### INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Open 9am to 5pm. Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite’s Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

### YOSEMITE RENAISSANCE XXIX

Call for Entries. Yosemite Renaissance is an all media, juried, fine art competition & exhibition on the theme of Yosemite and the environment of the Sierra Nevada. It is open to all living artists. \$4,000 in awards. Entry is by digital files. \$15 per entry (maximum of 8 entries per artist). The exhibit begins at the Yosemite Museum Gallery, March 1, 2014. For a prospectus and entry form visit: <http://www.yosemiterenaissance.org>. Deadline: November 16, 2013. Yosemite Renaissance is a non-profit organization which encourages diverse interpretations of Yosemite in the visual arts.

### YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

Open daily from 9 am to 5 pm. The store offers books and traditional American Indian arts, crafts, jewelry, and books.

### YOSEMITE MUSEUM GALLERY EXHIBIT

**Sharing Traditions: Celebrating Native Basketry Demonstrations in Yosemite 1929-1980.** This Yosemite Museum exhibit focuses on the weavers in the Indian Cultural Program who have connected with thousands of park visitors through their basket-weaving demonstrations. The work of Maggie Howard, Lucy Telles and Julia Parker are featured, as well as the contributions of Alice Wilson and Craig Bates. In addition to baskets, paintings, ephemera and archeological artifacts are on display and historic film footage and photographs are shown. This project was made possible through the generous support of Yosemite Conservancy donors. The Yosemite Museum Gallery is open June 4 through October 31. Open daily from 9am to 5pm through September 30 and open 10am to noon and 1pm to 4pm from October 1 through October 31.

## Wilderness Center

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

## Nature Center at Happy Isles

Open 9:30am to 5pm , closing for the season September 30. Designed for nature-exploring children and their families, the nature center offers natural-history exhibits and a bookstore. The nature center is a short walk from shuttle stop # 16.

## Yosemite Art Center

The Yosemite Art Center offers a selection of original art and art supplies, as well as four-hour art workshops daily (see pg. 6). Located near the Village Store, the Center is open 9am to noon and 1pm to 4:30pm daily.

## Yosemite Theater LIVE!

Yosemite Theater LIVE! offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances. Revel as park ranger Shelton Johnson and other performers bring the park’s adventures to life! Tickets \$8 adults, \$4 children.

## The Ansel Adams Gallery

In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9am to 6pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, other photographers and artists, camera walks, workshops, and classes. Activities are listed on the front porch.

### EXHIBITS

**Passages of Light: Yosemite Landscapes, Photographs by William Neill.**

*July 28- September 14, 2013*

**Along Those Lines: The Paintings of Penny Otwell**

*September 15-November 6, 2013*

Long-time contemporary Yosemite painter, Penny Otwell, has been working in oil on canvas for her new 2013 show at The Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Valley. This local artist is known for her colorful, expressive work of both Yosemite’s icons and more intimate scenes.

## LeConte Memorial Lodge

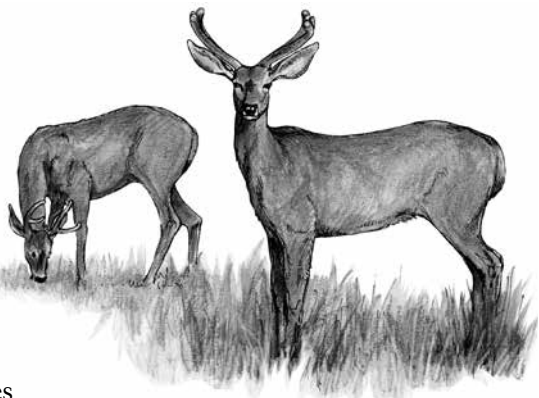
LeConte Memorial Lodge is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am until 4 pm. Free evening programs are scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00. The Lodge has a natural history library, children’s corner and library, historical exhibits, and an exhibit on climate change. LeConte Memorial Lodge is located at shuttle stop #12 and closes for the season on September 30.

## 10th Annual Yosemite Facelift

*September 25-29, 2013*

Each fall the Yosemite Climbing Association sponsors a park-wide cleanup in conjunction with National Public Lands Day. The “Yosemite Facelift” attracts over 1,000 volunteers for five days to pick up trash, remove large debris, and perform ecological

restoration. To participate, you must register as a volunteer at either the Valley Visitor Center (Wed-Sun, 8-4pm) or Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center (Fri-Sun, 8am to 3pm). All volunteers should wear long pants and closed-toed shoes, and should be prepared with water and clothes appropriate for the weather. All tools and safety equipment will be provided. To learn more, visit the YCA website at [www.yosemiteclimbing.org](http://www.yosemiteclimbing.org) or call the Yosemite volunteer office at 209-379-1850.



## VALLEY SERVICES

### GARAGE

Yosemite Village  
8am - 5pm / 24 hour AAA towing available, propane service available until 4:30pm. No gas available in Yosemite Valley. Gas available in El Portal 24 hours pay at the pump.

### POST OFFICES

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

### GROCERIES AND TOURS

Yosemite Village  
**Village Store Gift/Grocery**  
8am to 9pm  
**Degnan’s Deli**  
7am to 5pm  
**Tour Desk - Village Store**  
7:30am to 3pm  
Yosemite Lodge  
**Gift/Grocery**  
8am to 8pm  
**Tour Desk**  
7:30am to 7pm  
Curry Village  
**Gift/Grocery**  
9am to 7pm  
**Tour Desk**  
7:30am to 3pm (Closes for the season Oct 6)  
Housekeeping Camp  
**Gift/Grocery**  
8am to 6pm

### SHOWERS, LAUNDRY, AND INTERNET

**Housekeeping Camp**  
Showers 7am to 10pm  
Laundry 8am to 10pm  
**Curry Village**  
Showers open 24 hours  
**Internet Kiosks at Degnan’s Deli**  
7am to 6pm  
**Internet Kiosks at Yosemite Lodge Lobby**  
Open 24 hours



# SCHEDULED EVENTS IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

September 4, 2013 - October 8, 2013



An NPS Interpretive Ranger engages young park visitors during a Junior Ranger Program. NPS Photo

## Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing the wonders of Yosemite through our Outdoor Adventure programs. Join one of the many year-round programs available and explore everything Yosemite has to offer.

<b>Sept 7-8</b>	<i>High Country Photography Workshop</i> Focus on dramatic formations
<b>Sept 27-29</b>	<i>Miwok-Paiute Basketry</i> Create your own unique basket with Julia Parker
<b>Oct 4-6</b>	<i>Quick Sketching in Watercolor</i> Autumn in Wawona is an artist’s paradise
<b>Oct 4</b>	<i>Mariposa Grove Photography</i> Capture the season’s stunning display of light
<b>Oct 6</b>	<i>Glacier Point Natural History</i> Experience new wonders in a treasured locale

Find detailed information about these programs at [www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures) or call 209/379-2317, ext. 10. Camping and park entry are included, additional lodging options available. Custom adventures can also be arranged for individuals, families and groups. Proceeds support Yosemite Conservancy’s work in the park; preserving and protecting Yosemite for generations to come.

## Yosemite Art Center (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to enjoy a hands-on art experience in Yosemite Valley. Celebrated artists lead workshops from 10am - 2pm Monday through Saturday. There is a registration fee of \$10 per visitor, art supplies, gifts, and original art are available for purchase. Yosemite Valley workshops take place at the Yosemite Art Center located next to the Village Store. Open daily 9am-4:30pm (closed at 12pm for lunch). See page 8 for programs taking place in Wawona and Mariposa Grove.

<b>Sept 2-7</b>	<i>Capture the Beauty; Watercolor</i> Osamu Saito
<b>Sept 9-14</b>	<i>Experimental Watercolor Journaling</i> Chella Gonsalvez
<b>Sept 16-21</b>	<i>Plein Air Watercolor</i> Karen Bieber
<b>Sept 23-28</b>	<i>Yosemite Memories in Watercolor</i> Jim Kingwell
<b>Sept 30-Oct 5</b>	<i>Connecting to Yosemite: Watercolor</i> Linda Nadel

## Yosemite Theater LIVE! (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy presents unforgettable live performances of historic heroes, daring rescues, and thrilling adventures every night at the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

<b>Sundays</b>	<i>The Forgotten Yosemite A Buffalo Soldier Remembers</i> featuring park ranger Shelton Johnson.
<b>Mondays</b>	<i>Filmmaking on the Edge</i> (Sept 9 only) with filmmaker Steven M. Bumgardner.
<b>Tuesdays</b>	<i>Search and Rescue in Yosemite</i> with veteran rescue ranger John Dill.
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<i>Conversation with a Tramp An Evening with John Muir</i> performed by Lee Stetson.
<b>Thursdays</b>	<i>John Muir among the Animals</i> performed by Lee Stetson.
<b>Fridays and Saturdays</b>	<i>Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey</i> followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film.

All shows start at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$8 for adults; \$4 for children ages 4-12 and can be purchased at any Yosemite Conservancy bookstore or at DNC Tour & Activity Desks.

## Yosemite Mountaineering School (YMS)

YMS offers rock climbing classes, guided climbs, custom backcountry trips, and daily hikes. Experience the park with a professional guide: 209/372-8344 from 8:30am to noon and 1pm to 4:30pm.

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

**YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
209/372-4831, Pastor Brent Moore-Resident Minister  
[www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org](http://www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org)  
SUNDAY SERVICES:  
9:15am (Sunday School Available)  
11am-Memorial Day through Labor Day only - No Sunday School  
6:30pm Evening chapel service  
9am A.C.M.N.P. Sunday Morning Campground Services, Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater  
7pm TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY (call for location)  
7pm THURSDAY MID-WEEK SERVICE

**ROMAN CATHOLIC**  
Sunday, 10am at Valley Visitor Center Auditorium, 209/372-4729.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am  
Info: 209/379-2100

**A CHRISTIAN MINISTRY IN THE NATIONAL PARKS**  
9am Sunday at Lower Pines, Wawona, and Tuolumne Meadows campgrounds.

## SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
7:30pm Sunday, Tuesday, & Thursday  
DNC General Office Bldg. Yosemite Village.  
**LIONS CLUB**  
First and third Thursday of each month at noon, The Ahwahnee. Call 209/379-5501.  
**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL**  
Thursday at noon at The Ahwahnee.  
Reservations / information: 209/372-8459.

	MORNING
Sunday	8:30am <b>Plan A Yosemite Day</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Ask-A-Climber</b> (drop-in) Experts share their knowledge and passion for climbing in Yosemite. Use telescopes to view climbers in action, while learning about the sport of climbing. Suitable for all ages. At the El Capitan Bridge near El Capitan shuttle stop # E4. (NPS/YCA) 10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER TALK</b> (Oct only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 10:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS)
Monday	8:30am <b>Plan A Yosemite Day</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel, near shuttle stop #3. (TAAG) 9:00am <b>Using the Digital Darkroom: Landscapes and Lightroom</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery, near shuttle stop #5/9. (TAAG) \$ 10:00am <b>Ranger Walk –Yosemite’s First People</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Ask-A-Climber</b> (drop-in) Experts share their knowledge and passion for climbing in Yosemite. Use telescopes to view climbers in action, while learning about the sport of climbing. Suitable for all ages. At the El Capitan Bridge near El Capitan shuttle stop # E4. (NPS/YCA) 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> 4 hrs. Experience Yosemite through art with a professional artist. Supplies available for purchase. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$ 10:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS)
Tuesday	8:30am <b>Plan A Yosemite Day</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery and near shuttle stop #5/9. (TAAG) 10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Ask-A-Climber</b> (drop-in) Experts share their knowledge and passion for climbing in Yosemite. Use telescopes to view climbers in action, while learning about the sport of climbing. Suitable for all ages. At the El Capitan Bridge near El Capitan shuttle stop # E4. (NPS/YCA) 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> 4 hrs. Experience Yosemite through art with a professional artist. Supplies available for purchase. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$ 10:00am <b>Ranger Walk-Wild about Wildlife</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 10:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS)
Wednesday	8:30am <b>Plan A Yosemite Day</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Ask-A-Climber</b> (drop-in) Experts share their knowledge and passion for climbing in Yosemite. Use telescopes to view climbers in action, while learning about the sport of climbing. Suitable for all ages. At the El Capitan Bridge near El Capitan shuttle stop # E4. (NPS/YCA) 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> 4 hrs. Experience Yosemite through art with a professional artist. Supplies available for purchase. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$ 10:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS)
Thursday	8:30am <b>Plan A Yosemite Day</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery and near shuttle stop #5/9. (TAAG) 10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Ask-A-Climber</b> (drop-in) Experts share their knowledge and passion for climbing in Yosemite. Use telescopes to view climbers in action, while learning about the sport of climbing. Suitable for all ages. At the El Capitan Bridge near El Capitan shuttle stop # E4. (NPS/YCA) 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> 4 hrs. Experience Yosemite through art with a professional artist. Supplies available for purchase. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$ 10:00am <b>Ranger Walk-Trees</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. The Ahwahnee shuttle stop #3. (NPS) 10:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS)
Friday	8:30am <b>Plan A Yosemite Day</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Ask-A-Climber</b> (drop-in) Experts share their knowledge and passion for climbing in Yosemite. Use telescopes to view climbers in action, while learning about the sport of climbing. Suitable for all ages. At the El Capitan Bridge near El Capitan shuttle stop # E4. (NPS/YCA) 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> 4 hrs. Experience Yosemite through art with a professional artist. Supplies available for purchase. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$ 10:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS)
Saturday	8:30am <b>Plan A Yosemite Day</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 9:00am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery near shuttle stop #5/9. (TAAG) 10:00am <b>Ranger Walk – Ahwahneechee Stories and Games</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Ask-A-Climber</b> (drop-in) Experts share their knowledge and passion for climbing in Yosemite. Use telescopes to view climbers in action, while learning about the sport of climbing. Suitable for all ages. At the El Capitan Bridge near El Capitan shuttle stop # E4. (NPS/YCA) 10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> 4 hrs. Experience Yosemite through art with a professional artist. Supplies available for purchase. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$ 10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER TALK</b> (Oct only) 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) 10:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS)

AAC	American Alpine Club		Indicates facilities accessible to visitors in wheelchairs. Short, steep inclines may be encountered.
DNC	DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.		
NPS	National Park Service		A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Contact 209/372-4726 (TTY) or 209/ 372-0645 to request an interpreter. Advance notice of 2 days is requested.
SC	Sierra Club		
TAAG	The Ansel Adams Gallery		
YAC	Yosemite Art Center		
YC	Yosemite Conservancy		
YMS	Yosemite Mountaineering School		Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advanced request. Inquire at a visitor center.
\$	Programs offered for a fee		



	AFTERNOON	EVENING		
Sunday	1:30pm	<b>Beginner’s Watercolor</b> 2 hrs. Experience Yosemite through art with a professional artist. Supplies available for purchase. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$	7:00pm	<b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DNC) ♿
	1:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only)15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿	7:00pm	<b>Yosemite Theater LIVE!</b> The Forgotten Yosemite: A Buffalo Soldier Remembers featuring park ranger Shelton Johnson as Cavalry Sargent Elizy Boman (except Sept 22) 1.5 hrs. Advance tickets at Yosemite Conservancy bookstores & DNC Tour Desks. Valley Visitor Center Theater. (YC) \$
	1:30pm	<b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop # 16. (NPS) ♿	8:30pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DNC) ♿
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Bears</b> (Oct only) 1.5 hrs. Shuttle stop #6 (bear sightings unlikely). (NPS) ♿	8:30pm	<b>NIGHT PROWL</b> (except Sept 8) 1.5 hrs. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$
	2:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Bears</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (bear sightings unlikely). (NPS)		
Monday	1:00pm	<b>Historic Ahwahnee Tour</b> 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿	5:00pm	<b>Naturalist Stroll</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿
	1:00pm	<b>CRAFTS WORKSHOP</b> 2 hrs. All ages are invited to drop by the Art Center in Yosemite Village and create Yosemite memories though exploration of different craft mediums. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$	7:00pm	<b>Yosemite Theater LIVE!</b> Filmmaking on the Edge (Sept. 9 only) 1.5 hrs. Go behind the scenes with Yosemite filmmaker Steven M. Bumgardner. Advance tickets at Yosemite Conservancy bookstores & DNC Tour Desks. Valley Visitor Center Theater. (YC) \$
	1:00pm	<b>Using Your Digital Camera</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery, near shuttle stop #5/9. (TAAG) \$	8:00pm	<b>Ranger Program-Bears</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19. (NPS) ♿
	1:30pm	<b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿	8:30pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DNC) ♿
	1:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Yosemite’s First People</b> (Oct only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum. (NPS) ♿		
	2:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Legacy</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (bear sightings unlikely). (NPS) ♿		
Tuesday	1:00pm	<b>CRAFTS WORKSHOP</b> 2 hrs. All ages are invited to drop by the Art Center in Yosemite Village and create Yosemite memories though exploration of different craft mediums. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$	7:00pm	<b>Yosemite Theater LIVE!</b> Yosemite Search & Rescue with veteran rescue ranger John Dill. 1.5 hrs. Advance tickets at Yosemite Conservancy bookstores & DNC Tour Desks. Valley Visitor Center Theater. (YC) \$
	1:00pm	<b>In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Photogaphy Class</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery, near shuttle stop #5/9. (TAAG) \$	8:30pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DNC) ♿
	1:30pm	<b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿		
	1:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Legacy</b> (Oct only) 1.5 hrs.Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	2:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Bears</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (bear sightings unlikely). (NPS)		
Wednesday	1:00pm	<b>Historic Ahwahnee Tour</b> (except Sept 11 and 25) 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿	7:00pm	<b>Yosemite Theater LIVE!</b> Conversation with a Tramp: An Evening with John Muir performed by Lee Stetson. 1.5 hrs. Advance tickets at Yosemite Conservancy bookstores & DNC Tour Desks. Valley Visitor Center Theater. (YC) \$
	1:00pm	<b>CRAFTS WORKSHOP</b> 2 hrs. All ages are invited to drop by the Art Center in Yosemite Village and create Yosemite memories though exploration of different craft mediums. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$	8:00pm	<b>Ranger Program-Bears</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19. (NPS) ♿
	1:30pm	<b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿	8:30pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DNC) ♿
	1:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Geology</b> (Oct only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	2:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Geology</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
Thursday	1:00pm	<b>CRAFTS WORKSHOP</b> 2 hrs. All ages are invited to drop by the Art Center in Yosemite Village and create Yosemite memories though exploration of different craft mediums. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$	5:00pm	<b>Naturalist Stroll</b> (except Sept 26) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿
	1:00pm	<b>Using Your Digital Camera</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery, near shuttle stop #5/9. (TAAG) \$	7:00pm	<b>Yosemite Theater LIVE!</b> John Muir Among the Animals, performed by Lee Stetson. 1.5 hrs. Advance tickets at Yosemite Conservancy bookstores & DNC Tour Desks. Valley Visitor Center Theater. (YC) \$
	1:30pm	<b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿	8:30pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DNC) ♿
	1:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Trees</b> (Oct only) 1.5 hrs. The Ahwahnee shuttle stop #3. (NPS)		
	2:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Bears</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (bear sightings unlikely). (NPS)		
Friday	1:00pm	<b>Historic Ahwahnee Tour</b> 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿	7:00pm	<b>Yosemite Theater LIVE!</b> Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey, followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. 1.5 hrs. Advance tickets at Yosemite Conservancy bookstores & DNC Tour Desks. Valley Visitor Center Theater. (YC) \$
	1:00pm	<b>CRAFTS WORKSHOP</b> 2 hrs. All ages are invited to drop by the Art Center in Yosemite Village and create Yosemite memories though exploration of different craft mediums. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$	7:00pm	<b>JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles campfire ring, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS)
	1:30pm	<b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿	7:00pm	<b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DNC) ♿
	1:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿	8:00pm	<b>BEN CUNNINGHAM-SUMMERFIELD, CA TRIBAL MEMBER: AMERICAN INDIAN FLUTE AND STORYTELLING</b> (Sept 6 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle stop #12. (SC)
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Wild about Wildlife</b> (Oct only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿	8:00pm	<b>Larry Simon, LeConte Historian: Joseph N. LeConte. Exploring, Mapping &amp; Photographing the High Sierra 1890 to 1930</b> (Sept 13 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle stop #12. (SC)
	2:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿	8:00pm	<b>Frank Helling, John Muir Historian &amp; Kings Canyon National Park Interpretive Ranger: John Muir’s Journey Across America</b> (Sept 20 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle stop #12. (SC)
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Bears</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (bear sightings unlikely). (NPS)	8:00pm	<b>Film - Ansel Adams</b> 1 hr. Check local listing for venue. (TAAG) ♿
Saturday			8:30pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DNC) ♿
			8:30pm	<b>NIGHT PROWL</b> 1.5 hrs. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$
	1:00pm	<b>Historic Ahwahnee Tour</b> 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿	7:00pm	<b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DNC) ♿
	1:00pm	<b>CRAFTS WORKSHOP</b> 2 hrs. All ages are invited to drop by the Art Center in Yosemite Village and create Yosemite memories though exploration of different craft mediums. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$	7:00pm	<b>Yosemite Theater LIVE!</b> Return to Balance: a Climber’s Journey followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. 1½ hrs. Advance tickets at Yosemite Conservancy bookstores & DNC Tour Desks. Valley Visitor Center Theater. (YC) \$
	1:00pm	<b>In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Photogaphy Class</b> 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery, near shuttle stop #5/9. (TAAG) \$	7:00pm	<b>JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles campfire ring, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS)
	1:30pm	<b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (Sept only) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16. (NPS) ♿	8:00pm	<b>John Dill, Yosemite National Park Search &amp; Rescue Ranger: Search &amp; Rescue in Yosemite</b> (Sept 7 only) 1.5 hrs. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle stop #12. (SC)
	1:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿	8:00pm	<b>MICHAEL BRYANT AND ROBIN PLISKIN: CONCERT AND SING-ALONG WITH MUSIC ABOUT NATURE: SONG BOOK PROVIDED</b> (Sept 14 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle stop #12. (SC)
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk – Ahwahneechee Stories and Games</b> (Oct only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿	8:00pm	<b>Jeremy Evans, Nature Photographer: Hiking the John Muir Trail. Three Weeks of Stories, Photographs, and Short Films</b> (Sept 21 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle stop #12. (SC)
2:30pm	<b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Sept only) 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿	8:30pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Curry Village Amphitheater. (DNC) ♿	
3:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk-Bears</b> (Sept only) 1.5 hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (bear sightings unlikely). (NPS)	8:30pm	<b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DNC/AAC) ♿	
3:00pm	<b>Fine Print Viewing</b> 1 hr. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Very limited space. (TAAG) ♿			

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS AND COLOR** are especially for children and their families.



# Wawona, Mariposa Grove, and Glacier Point



Horse-drawn stage rides with Burrell "Buckshot" Maier NPS Photo

Shuttles operate beginning at 9am, and the last shuttle leaves the grove at 6pm, or after the last tour. Please use this free bus service to the Mariposa Grove to help reduce congestion, parking delays, and pollution.

### Big Trees Tram Tours

The Big Trees Tram Tour is a 1 ¼ hour audio tour providing an interpretive program on the natural and cultural history of this magnificent Giant sequoia ecosystem. Please see Big Trees Ticket Kiosk at the Mariposa Grove for tour times.

## Explore History, Discover Giant Trees, and Find Amazing Vistas

These park areas offer endless opportunities for amazing experiences.

### Wawona

#### Evening Programs

Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Wawona Hotel lobby from 5:30pm to 9:30pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and tells stories from Yosemite's past. Once or twice a week, he will present an hour-long interpretive program on the vintage songs of Yosemite or the history of Wawona with slide or music accompaniment. Check with Tom at the piano for dates and times.

#### Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio

Open 8:30am to 5pm, the visitor center offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. Located on the grounds of the Wawona Hotel, Hill's Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park at the Wawona store parking area and follow the path up the hill.

### Pioneer Yosemite History Center

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

#### Experience Horse-Drawn Travel

Travel into history by taking a 10-minute horse-drawn stage ride. Tickets may be purchased at the Grey Barn in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. See page 9 for dates, times, and locations. \$5/ adults and \$4/child (ages 3-12)

### Mariposa Grove

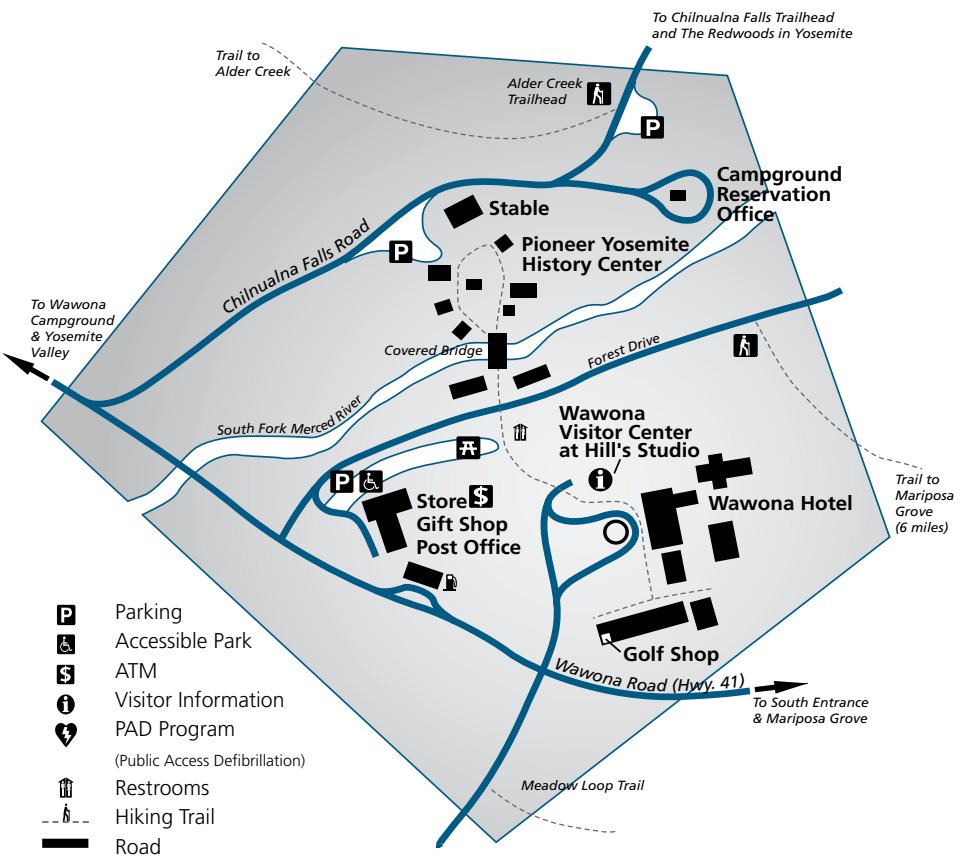
Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park's largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 mature, adult trees. A few of these giants are visible in the parking area. Information about access for disabled people is available at the tram boarding area. Mariposa Grove area maps may be found adjacent to the parking lot. Dogs/ bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Grove.

#### Getting to Mariposa Grove

Allow 1½ hours driving time to reach the grove from the Valley. Cars are prohibited beyond the grove parking lot. The access road to the grove may close intermittently due to limited parking. *Trailers are prohibited on the Mariposa Grove Road. Private vehicles longer than 25 feet are not permitted on this road.*

#### Mariposa Grove Museum

Open 10am to 4pm and located in the Upper Mariposa Grove, the museum offers information and displays on giant sequoias.



#### Walking through the Grove

Trails into the grove extend uphill from the trailhead at the far end of the parking area. Interpretive signs between the trailhead and the California Tunnel Tree provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead in Spanish, German, French, and Japanese.

#### FREE BIG TREES SHUTTLE

A shuttle stops at the Wawona Store, South Entrance, and Mariposa Grove. Visitors may park at the Wawona Store to board the bus.



Giant Sequoia NPS Photo by Christine White Loberg





Geology Hut. Photo courtesy Yosemite Research Library

## Glacier Point

### Evening Programs

Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening shadows in Yosemite Valley and the alpenglow (or moonrise) on the Sierra high country. Stargazing programs are offered, as well. Details at right.

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

Wawona  
**Wawona Hotel Dining Room**  
Breakfast: 7am to 10am  
Lunch: 11:30am to 1:30pm  
Lounge Service 5pm to 9:30pm  
Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm  
Saturday BBQ: 5pm to 7pm (ends Sept 7)  
**Golf Shop & Snack Stand**  
9am to 5pm when the golf course is open.  
Glacier Point  
**Snack Stand**  
11am to 4pm

### GROCERIES

**Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop**  
8am to 6pm

### GIFTS & APPAREL

Wawona  
**Wawona Store & Pioneer Shop**  
8am to 6pm  
**Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio (Information and Books)**  
8:30am to 5pm  
Glacier Point  
**Gift Shop**  
10am to 5pm  
Mariposa Grove  
**Mariposa Grove Museum**  
10am to 4pm  
**Big Trees Gift Shop**  
9am to 5pm

### POST OFFICE

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

### GAS STATION

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

### GOLF

Wawona Hotel Golf Course  
9am to 5pm, weather and conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par-35 course.

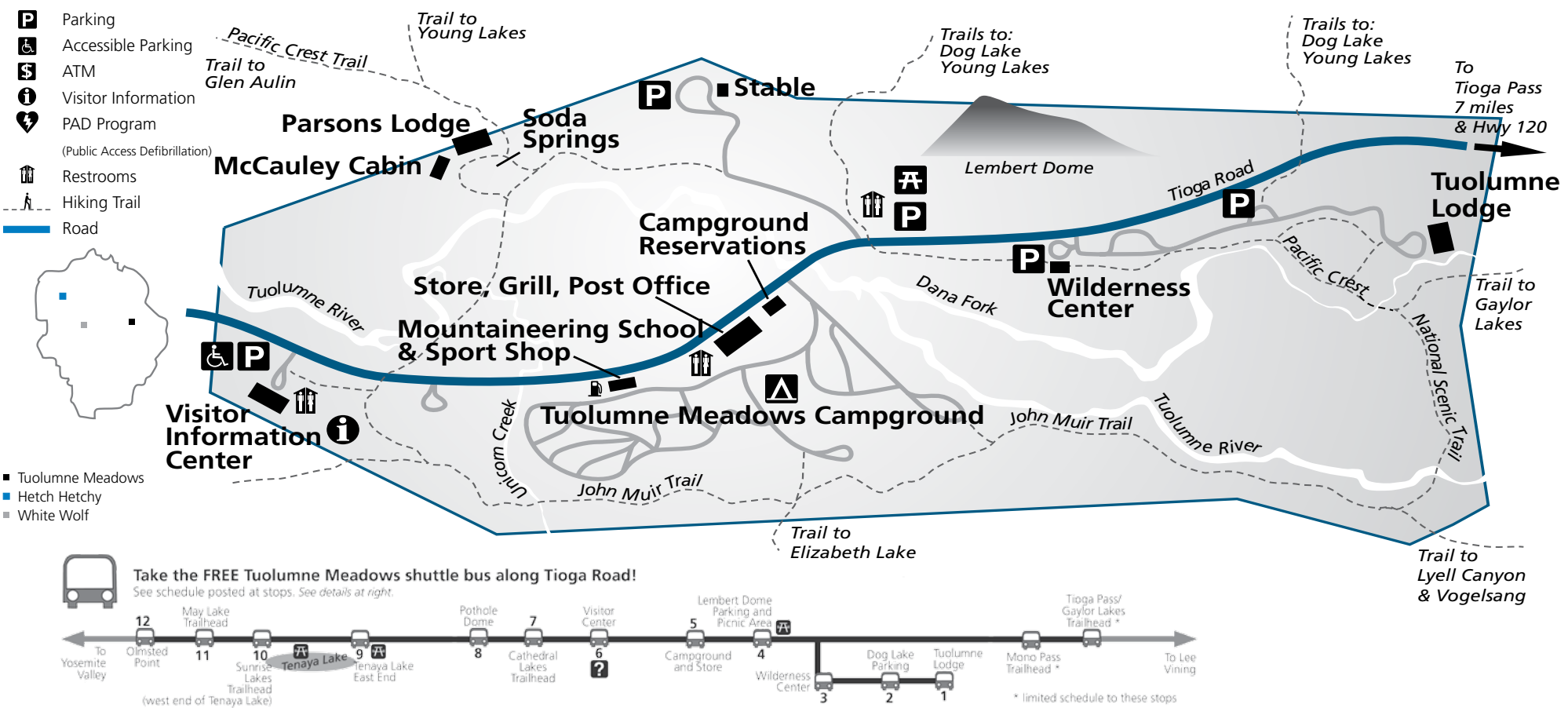
	WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE	GLACIER POINT
Sunday	10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> 10 mins. each. Tickets may be purchased at the Grey Barn near the Covered Bridge in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12. (NPS) \$	8:30am <b>Glacier Point Natural History</b> (Oct 6 only) 8 hrs. Get an insider's perspective of one of Yosemite's most famous viewpoints. Camping included. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 ext. 10. (YC) \$  6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Sept 29 and Oct 26 only) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)  6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Sept 15 only) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)
Monday		2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Cliffs and Domes</b> (except Sept 9) 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking are on Glacier Point Road. (NPS)
Tuesday	5:30pm <b>Tom Bopp Performing at the Piano</b> 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Historical programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge. (DNC) ♿	
Wednesday	5:30pm <b>Tom Bopp Performing at the Piano</b> 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Historical programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge. (DNC) ♿	
Thursday	5:30pm <b>Tom Bopp Performing at the Piano</b> 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Historical programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge. (DNC) ♿	
Friday	8:00am <b>Mariposa Grove Photography</b> (Oct 4 only) 8 hrs. Autumn in the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is an excellent time to capture the season's stunning display of light and colors with your camera. Photographers of all levels are invited. Camping included. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 ext. 10. (YC) \$  10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> 10 mins. each. Tickets may be purchased at the Grey Barn near the Covered Bridge in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12. (NPS) \$  5:30pm <b>Tom Bopp Performing at the Piano</b> 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Historical programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge. (DNC) ♿	2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Short Walk to a Great View of El Capitan</b> (except Sept 6 and 27) 1.5 hrs. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop. (NPS)  6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Oct 4 only) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)  6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Sept 13 and 20 only) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)
Saturday	9:30am - 11:30am <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (Oct 5 only) 10 mins. each. Tickets may be purchased at the Grey Barn near the Covered Bridge in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12. (NPS) \$  10:00am - 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (except Oct 5) 10 mins. each. Tickets may be purchased at the Grey Barn near the Covered Bridge in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. \$5 adult / \$4 child 3-12. (NPS) \$  5:30pm <b>Tom Bopp Performing at the Piano</b> 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Historical programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge. (DNC) ♿	2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk - Cliffs and Domes</b> (except Sept 7 and 28) 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking are on Glacier Point Road. (NPS)  6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Oct 5 only) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)  6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Sept 14 and 21 only) 30 mins. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)



# Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, and Crane Flat



Cathedral Peak NPS Photo by Greg Frediani



## Tuolumne Meadows

*Please walk on official trails to protect fragile meadow ecosystems.*

*Pets, bicycles, and strollers are only allowed on roads open to vehicles.*

*Day-hikers and backpackers must go to the bathroom at least 100 feet away from water, trail, and camp areas; bury human waste six inches deep; pack out toilet paper and all other trash.*

**Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center**  
Visitor Center hours are 9am to 5pm through September 25. Park orientation, trail information, books, maps, and displays available.

**Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center**  
Open 8am to 5pm. The wilderness center offers wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, visitor information, maps, and general park information. The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center is located just south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, across from shuttle stop #3.

**Tuolumne Mountaineering School and Stables**  
The Tuolumne Meadows Mountaineering School is open daily from 9am to 5pm 209/372-8435. The Tuolumne Stables are open 7am to 5pm for trail rides. Reservations are strongly recommended 209/372-8427.

**Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin, and Soda Springs**  
Two trails, both flat and 3/4-mile long, lead to this historic area accessible only by walking. Parsons Memorial Lodge is open from 10am to 4pm through Friday, September 20. Soda Springs are small, naturally-carbonated springs that attract birds and deer, especially at sunrise and sunset.

**Just for Kids**  
Programs for children include Junior Rangers, a two-hour, ranger-led program for children (ages 7-12), and Campfire for Kids.

**Ranger Walks**  
Join a ranger to explore new areas and learn about geology, birds, flowers, history, the Tuolumne River, and more. These walks range from one to eight hours and, except for the long walks, are fairly easy.

**Evening Activities**  
Come to a traditional, ranger-led campfire program for stories, songs, and insight into Yosemite. Program topics vary and are posted at the campground, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. End your day with a star program—bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly.

**Mule and Horseback Rides**  
Horse or mule rides begin at the Tuolumne Meadows stable. Stable hours are 7am to 5pm. The stables close for the season on September 8. Information: 209/372-8427.

**Big Oak Flat**  
**Big Oak Flat Information Station**  
Open 8am to 5pm. The information station offers general park information, books and maps. It also provides wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, trail, and backpacking information. The information station is located just inside the park entrance on State Route 120 West.

**Merced Grove**  
Yosemite’s quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of approximately 20 big trees accessible only on foot.

It’s a three-mile round-trip hike (about three hours) into the grove. The trail drops down 1.5 miles making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. There is no potable water at the parking area or down in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (State Route 120 West). The trail is marked by a sign and a post labeled B-10 Merced Grove.

**Tuolumne Grove**  
The trail head for this grove of approximately 25 sequoias is near the intersection of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga roads at Crane Flat. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from the parking area into the grove. The trail drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the uphill return to the parking lot. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. There is no potable water at the parking area or in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you.



FOOD & BEVERAGE

Tuolumne Meadows  
**Tuolumne Meadows Grill**  
8am to 5pm (Closes for the season Sept 22)  
**Tuolumne Meadows Lodge Dining Room**  
Breakfast - Reservations recommended - 7am-9am  
Dinner-Reservations Strongly Recommended - 5:45pm - 8pm  
209/372-8413 (Closes for the season following breakfast Sept 15)

White Wolf  
**White Wolf Lodge**  
Breakfast - 7:30am to 9:30am.  
Lunch - Sandwiches , beverages, and snacks available at the front desk store noon to 2pm  
Dinner - 6pm to 8pm  
Reservations recommended  
209/372-8416 (Closes for the season following breakfast Sept 8)

GROCERIES

Tuolumne Meadows  
**Store**  
9am to 6pm (Closes for the season Sept 23)  
White Wolf  
**Store**  
7am to 9pm (Closes for the season Sept 8)  
Crane Flat  
**Store**  
9am to 5pm

GIFTS & APPAREL

Tuolumne Meadows  
**Mountaineering School and Sport Shop**  
9am to 5pm (Closes for the season Sept 22)  
**Tuolumne Meadows Bookstore**  
Inside the Visitor Center  
9am to 5pm (Closes for the season Sept 26)  
**Tuolumne Meadows Gift and Grocery**  
9am to 6pm (Closes for the season Sept 23)

POST OFFICE

Tuolumne Meadows  
**Post Office**  
Monday – Friday: 9am to 5pm  
Saturday: 9am to 1pm (Closes for the season the end of Sept - check local listings)

GAS STATIONS

Tuolumne Meadows  
9am to 6pm, Gas and propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Crane Flat  
9am to 5pm  
Diesel & propane available.  
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

FREE SHUTTLE BUS

Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass

See map, page 10. Free shuttle service is available along the Tioga Road from Olmsted Point to Tioga Pass.

Shuttles travel between Tuolumne Meadows Lodge and Olmsted Point with stops along the Tioga Road, including Tuolumne Meadows Campground and the visitor center. The shuttle also makes morning and afternoon runs to Tioga Pass.

Service begins at the Lodge at 7am. Shuttles arrive at approximately 30-minute intervals between 7am and 7pm. Shuttle services will end on Sept 15.

		TUOLUMNE MEADOWS	WHITE WOLF <i>*Please check local listings for current programs</i>	CRANE FLAT/ HODGDON MEADOW/ HETCH HETCHY <i>*Please check local listings for current programs</i>
Sunday	8:30am	<b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (except Sept 29 and Oct 6) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS)		
	10:00am	<b>Ranger Hike—Lembert Dome</b> (except Sept 29 and Oct 6) 3 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 3 miles. Dog Lake parking, shuttle stop #2. Bring snacks and water. (NPS)		
	11:30am	<b>Tenaya Lake Cleanup and Conversation with climber Ron Kauk</b> (except Sept 29 and Oct 6) 1.5 hrs. East end of Tenaya Lake, shuttle stop #9. (NPS)		
	12:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 29 and Oct 6) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk—Indians in the High Country</b> (except Sept 29 and Oct 6) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. (NPS)		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 29 and Oct 6) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	7:30pm	<b>Campfire</b> (except Sept 29 and Oct 6) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. (NPS)		
Monday	10:00am	<b>Ranger Walk—Domes and Meadows</b> (except Sept 30 and Oct 7) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8. (NPS)		
	12:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 30 and Oct 7) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk—Bears and Other Wildlife</b> (except Sept 30 and Oct 7) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Campground Reservation Office. (NPS)		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 30 and Oct 7) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	7:30pm	<b>Campfire</b> (except Sept 30 and Oct 7) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. (NPS)		
	7:30pm	<b>Stars Over Mono Lake</b> (except Sept 30 and Oct 7) 1.5 hrs. Meet at South Tufa in Mono Basin. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS) ♿		
Tuesday	9:15am	<b>Ranger Hike—Gaylor Lakes Basin</b> (except Oct 1 and 8) 5-6 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 5 miles. Meet at Gaylor Lakes parking lot at Tioga Pass. Bring lunch, water, and raingear. (NPS)		
	12:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Oct 1 and 8) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Oct 1 and 8) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	7:30pm	<b>Campfire</b> (except Oct 1 and 8) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. (NPS)		
Wednesday	8:00am	<b>Ranger Walk—Birds</b> (Sept 4 and 11 only) 2.5 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. Binoculars available. (NPS)		
	8:30am	<b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (except Sept 18 and Oct 2) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS)		
	10:00am	<b>Geology of Tuolumne Meadows</b> (except Sept 18 and Oct 2) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8. (NPS)		
	12:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 18 and Oct 2) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	1:30pm	<b>Ranger Walk—The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River</b> (except Sept 18 and Oct 2) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. (NPS)		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 18 and Oct 2) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	7:30pm	<b>Campfire</b> (except Sept 18 and Oct 2) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. (NPS)		
	9:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Stars</b> (except Sept 18 and Oct 2) 1 hr. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS)		
Thursday	10:00am	<b>Ranger Hike—Dog Lake</b> (Sept 12 and 19 only) 4 hrs. Moderate. 4 miles. Meet at Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring lunch, water, and raingear. (NPS)		
	12:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 26 and Oct 3) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk—The Secret Life of Plants</b> (except Sept 26 and Oct 3) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. (NPS)		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 26 and Oct 3) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	7:30pm	<b>Campfire</b> (except Sept 26 and Oct 3) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. (NPS)		
Friday	8:30am	<b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (Sept 13 and 20 only) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS)		
	10:00am	<b>Ranger Walk—A Place Long Traveled: History of Tuolumne Meadows</b> (except Sept 27 and Oct 4) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center shuttle stop #6. (NPS)		
	12:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (Sept 13 and 20 only) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	1:30pm	<b>Ranger Walk—High Country Hawk Watch</b> (except Sept 27 and Oct 4 ) 3 hrs. Gaylor Lakes trailhead. Steep. 1 mile. Binoculars available. (NPS)		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 27 and Oct 4) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	7:30pm	<b>Campfire</b> (except Sept 27 and Oct 4) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. (NPS)		
Saturday	8:00am	<b>Ranger Walk—Birds</b> (except Sept 28 and Oct 5) 2.5 hrs. Lembert Dome picnic area. Binoculars available. (NPS)		
	9:15am	<b>Ranger Hike—Mono Pass</b> (except Sept 28 and Oct 5) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 8 miles. Meet at Mono Pass trailhead. Bring lunch, water, and raingear. (NPS)		
	10:00am	<b>JUNIOR RANGER ART WALK</b> (except Sept 28 and Oct 5) 2 hrs. Ages 7-12. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring notebook and pen or pencil if you have them. (NPS)		
	12:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 28 and Oct 5) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	2:00pm	<b>Ranger Walk—Winter's A-Comin'!</b> (except Sept 28 and Oct 5) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29. (NPS)		
	3:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except Sept 28 and Oct 5) 15 mins. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot. (NPS) ♿		
	6:30 pm	<b>CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS</b> (except Sept 28 and Oct 5) 45 mins. Conness Circle, Loop C in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. (NPS) ♿		
	7:30pm	<b>Campfire</b> (except Sept 28 and Oct 5) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. (NPS)		
	9:00pm	<b>Ranger Talk—Stars</b> (except Sept 28 and Oct 5) 1 hr. Lembert Dome picnic area. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS)		



# Become a Junior Ranger

Ages 3 and up can earn a badge while exploring the park

Yosemite National Park offers a wide variety of programs and activities for kids of all ages! To find kid-friendly programs, see pages 6, 7, 9, and 11 of the Guide for program descriptions:

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS & COLOR** are especially for Children and their Families

**Be a naturalist.** Look for these common Yosemite wild animals. If you see one, make a note by the animal’s picture below. If you don’t see any of these wild animals during your visit, choose one you did see and draw it in the box on this page. Where did you see it? What was it doing? Also, remember never to feed or approach an animal.



Coyote



Black bear



Golden-mantled ground squirrel

All issue illustrations by Tom Whitworth

**Follow these steps to earn your Junior Ranger badge.\***

☐

1. With an adult, pick a trail to walk. See page 17 of this Guide or stop by a visitor center to choose your trail. As you go, walk quietly, watch, listen, and think.

Write the name of the trail you walked. \_\_\_\_\_

☐

2. Explore with your senses! Record the following.

I see: \_\_\_\_\_

I hear: \_\_\_\_\_

I smell: \_\_\_\_\_

I touch: \_\_\_\_\_

☐

3. Leave no Trace! If you see trash or rubbish, pick it up. Junior Rangers learn to be good park stewards by bringing in a bag of trash. Recycle any recyclable materials you pick up or bring along.

☐

4. Ask a Ranger! What President signed the Yosemite Grant Act on June 30, 1864, setting aside Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove for special protection?\_\_\_\_\_

☐

5. Learn more. Go to a ranger-led program or visit with an Indian Cultural Demonstrator. What program did you attend? Have the ranger or demonstrator sign below.

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

☐

6. Write down something you learned from a ranger or Indian Cultural Demonstrator.

☐

7. Think about this. Why do people work to protect national parks?

☐

8. When you complete this page, take it to a visitor center. There you will take your oath and receive your Junior Ranger badge.

\*Expanded Junior Ranger and Little Cub programs (and the chance to earn a patch) are available in the *Junior Ranger* or *Little Cub Handbooks*, which can be purchased at any Yosemite Conservancy bookstore.



# Bears and Wildlife

Enjoying wildlife safely and responsibly



Sow and Cub. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Keep Wildlife Wild!

Black bears, coyotes, 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

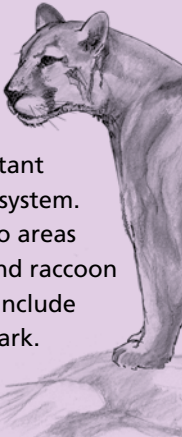
unable to open. When used correctly, bears learn that—although they smell like food—the canisters are not worth investigating.

**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](http://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 roads. This encourages them to frequent roadsides to beg for food, endangering both coyotes and drivers.

## Mountain Lions



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

**For your safety:**  
Do not leave pets or pet food outside and unattended. Pets can attract mountain lions.

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

**What should you do if you meet a mountain lion?**  
Never approach one, especially if it is with kittens. Most lions will avoid confrontation. Always give them a way to escape.

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

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

Mountain lions are magnificent creatures and native to Yosemite. Generally, they are calm, quiet, and elusive. Sightings are rare, so if you spot one, consider yourself privileged!

**How to Store Food**

“Food” includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This may include items that you do not consider food, such as canned goods, bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unwashed items used for preparing or eating meals.

LOCATION	FOOD STORAGE	WHY?
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: use a food locker. Remember to clear your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats. Never leave unattended food strapped to the outside of a vehicle or in a pickup truck bed.	Bears can smell food, even if it's sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!
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.	Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even check food lockers to see if they're secured. Keep food lockers closed and latched at all times, even when you are in your campsite or tent cabin.
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.	Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert.
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.





# Protect Yourself...

Keep safety in mind as you explore the park



**Permit Required to Hike Half Dome**

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up for 2013, May 24 through October 14, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 preseason lottery permits have already been issued for 2013. 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 1 pm. 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). These permits may be acquired through early reservations (50 per day) or day before walk-up (25 per day). Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area may descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit. More information is available at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm> For backpackers more information is available at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdwildpermits.htm>

**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 Water**

- 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 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 not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

**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.

**Hiking, Backpacking, River and Creek Crossings, and Rock Climbing**

- Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.
- Carry and know how to use a map and compass.
- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.
- Check weather forecasts.
- 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.
  - Summer trails are not marked for winter use. When trails have full or partial snow coverage, good navigation skills are necessary.
  - During spring runoff and high water any unbridged river or creek crossing can be hazardous. Always take extra time and use good judgment when crossing rivers and creeks.

**Hantavirus Information**

Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases that are harmful to humans. Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is a rare but serious disease spread in the droppings and saliva of infected rodents. Not all rodents are infected with hantavirus, but infected rodents have been found throughout the US. You can be in close proximity to park rodents, so it is important you take steps to protect yourself from HPS.

Tell housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice in your tent or cabin and do not clean up the area yourself. Keep doors shut and do not eat or bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container. Do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings. HPS begins with aches, fever, and chills 1- 8 weeks after exposure, progressing to cough and difficulty breathing. Seek medical attention immediately if you experience these symptoms.

For more information on rodent-borne diseases and other environmental safety hazards visit: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm> .

**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.

**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.

**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 at the Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center, the Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center, the Big Oak Flat Information Center, Hill’s Studio in Wawona, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station during hours of operation. Check the website at [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm) or call the park’s main phone line at 209/372-0200, for additional information. 60% of the trailhead quota is available in advance. 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. 40% of the trailhead quota is available for first come first serve. First come first serve permits are available the day of at opening and the day before starting at 11am.



# ...and Yosemite

## Protecting park resources



Tunnel View NPS Photo

### Protecting Yourself and the Park

Prepare yourself for a wild experience. Yosemite is a place where natural forces—such as rockfall, fire, and flood—are constantly at work. Here, wildlife freely roams. This is a place where wilderness prevails. The National Park Service recognizes the importance of Yosemite’s natural processes and is bound by its mission to protect them for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. While you are enjoying your visit, be attentive to the special regulations in place to protect park resources and those designed for your safety.

#### Rafting

Conditions permitting, rafting on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley (Stoneman Bridge to Sentinel Beach) and the South Fork of the Merced River in Wawona is open from 10am to 6pm daily to any type of non-motorized vessel or other flotation device.

- The entire length of the Merced River in Yosemite Valley is closed to all flotation devices whenever the river gauge at Sentinel Bridge reads 6.5 feet or higher. Ask at a visitor center for conditions and obey all posted signs.
- You must wear or have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device immediately available.
- Fallen trees and other natural debris in the river create important habitat for fish and other wildlife. Be alert—they can also create hazards for rafters.

#### Pets

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

- Pets are only allowed in developed areas and on roads and paved bike paths. Pets are not allowed anywhere in the Mariposa or Merced sequoia groves. They are not allowed on trails, in wilderness areas, or where signs are posted prohibiting them.
- Pets must be on a leash (6 feet or less) or otherwise physically restrained.
- For the courtesy of others, human companions are responsible for cleaning up and depositing pet feces in trash receptacles.
- Pets are not allowed in any lodging facilities or other buildings within the park and are not allowed in some campgrounds.
- Pets may not be tied to an object and left unattended.

#### Fishing

Fishing in Yosemite is regulated by state law. A valid California sport-fishing license is required for those persons age 16 years and older. When fishing, the license must be plainly visible by attaching it to an outer layer of clothing above the waistline.

- Trout season runs through November 15 (except Frog Creek near Lake Eleanor, which opens June 15).
- Special fishing regulations apply on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley from Happy Isles downstream to the Foresta Bridge in El Portal. Within these reaches of the river, it is catch-and-release only for rainbow trout. Brown trout limits are five fish per day. Only artificial lures or flies with barbless hooks may be used.
- The use of live or dead minnows, bait fish or amphibians, non-preserved fish eggs or roe is prohibited.

#### Bicycling

Bike rentals at Curry Village and Yosemite Lodge are open from 8:30am to 8pm, with the last rental going out at 6:45pm. Each season, plants are crushed from bicycle travel in meadows, campgrounds, and picnic areas. Please respect park resources and keep bicycles on paved roads and paved bicycle trails. Bikes are not allowed to travel off paved trails. Mountain biking opportunities are available in designated areas outside of Yosemite.

#### Yosemite Guardians

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park’s most important guardians. With 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, record 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](http://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.



Giant Sequoias, NPS Photo

### Weather in Yosemite

Dressing in layers and bringing plenty of water can 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 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. It is not uncommon for clouds to build up suddenly, bringing rain and/or thunderstorms to an otherwise sunny day. In September and October, temperatures in Tuolumne Meadows can dip well below freezing, while day time temperatures at lower elevations, like Yosemite Valley and Hetch Hetchy, can soar to over 100° F.



# Camping



Camping in Yosemite. Photo by Ray Santos

## General Info...

To check same-day camping availability, call 209/372-0266

### Services

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

### 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. At other times of the year and in out-of-Valley campgrounds, fires are permitted at any time, as long as they are attended.
- Firewood collection (including pine cones and pine needles) is not permitted in Yosemite Valley; you may purchase firewood at stores near the campgrounds.

## An adventurous overnight experience

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

### Camping Reservations

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

ARRIVAL DATE	FIRST DAY TO MAKE RESERVATIONS (7 AM PT)
Dec. 15 – Jan. 14	Aug. 15
Jan. 15 – Feb. 14	Sept. 15
Feb. 15 – Mar. 14	Oct. 15
Mar. 15 – Apr. 14	Nov. 15
Apr. 15 – May 14	Dec. 15
May 15 – Jun. 14	Jan. 15
Jun. 15 – Jul. 14	Feb. 15
Jul. 15 – Aug. 14	Mar. 15
Aug. 15 – Sep. 14	Apr. 15
Sep. 15 – Oct. 14	May 15
Oct. 15 – Nov. 14	Jun. 15
Nov. 15 – Dec. 14	Jul. 15

For campground reservations, visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) (recommended) or call 877/444-6777 or TDD 877/833-6777 or 518/885-3639 from outside the US and Canada.

### Hours:

7am to 7pm Pacific time  
(November through February)

7am to 9pm Pacific time  
(March through October)

Reservation offices in the park are located in the visitor parking area at Curry Village (shuttle stop #14), the Tuolumne Meadows Campground entrance, in Wawona off Chilnualna Falls Road, and at Big Oak Flat Information Station.

### Yosemite Valley

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

Camp 4 is a walk-in campground and is open all year on a first-come, first-served basis; these campsites are not wheelchair accessible. Sites are available on a per-person basis, and six

people will be placed in each campsite, regardless of number of people in your party. You must be physically present to acquire a campsite in Camp 4. Camp 4 often fills before 9am each day, May through September.

### Camping in Areas Surrounding Yosemite

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) operates a variety of campgrounds on a seasonal basis near Yosemite. For additional information, contact Groveland Ranger Station at 209/962-7825; Mariposa Ranger Station at 209/966-3638; Mono Lake Ranger Station at 760/647-3044; or Oakhurst Ranger Station at 559/683-4636. For private campgrounds outside Yosemite, call the respective chamber of commerce or visitor bureau listed on page 2.

### Group Campgrounds

There are group campsites at Tuolumne Meadows, Hodgdon Meadow, Wawona, and Bridalveil Creek Campgrounds. Reservations can be made the same way as individual site reservations; 13 to 30 people are allowed in each group campsite. Tent camping only. Pets, RVs, and generators are not permitted in group sites.

## Campgrounds in Yosemite National Park\*

CAMPGROUND	OPEN 2012 (APPROX)	MAX RV LENGTH	MAX TRAILER LENGTH	RESERVATIONS REQUIRED?	DAILY FEE	# OF SITES	PETS	WATER
YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Upper Pines	All year	35 ft	24 ft	March 15- Dec 2	\$20	238	Yes	Tap
Lower Pines	March 27- Oct28	40 ft	35 ft	Yes	\$20	60	Yes	Tap
North Pines	April 3- Nov 4	40 ft	35 ft	Yes	\$20	81	Yes	Tap
Camp 4	All year	No RVs/trailers	n/a	First-come, first-served	\$5/pers.	35	No	Tap
SOUTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Wawona	All year	35 ft	35 ft	April 17- Oct 7	\$20	93	Yes	Tap
Bridalveil Creek	July 12 - Sept 9	35 ft	24 ft	First-come,first-served	\$14	110	Yes	Tap
NORTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Hodgdon Meadow	All year	35 ft	27 ft	Apr 17 – Oct 15	\$20	105	Yes	Tap
Crane Flat	July 12 – Oct 9	35 ft	27 ft	Yes	\$20	166	Yes	Tap
Tamarack Flat	July – Oct 15	No RVs/trailers		First-come, first-served	\$10	52	Yes	Creek (boil)
White Wolf	July – Sep 16	27 ft	24 ft	First-come, first-served	\$14	74	Yes	Tap
Yosemite Creek	July – Sep 9	No RVs/trailers		First-come, first-served	\$10	75	Yes	Creek (boil)
Porcupine Flat	July – Oct 15	24 ft (limited)	20 ft	First-come, first-served	\$10	52	Yes	Creek (boil)
Tuolumne Meadows	July 12 – Sep 26	35 ft	35 ft	50%	\$20	304	Yes	Tap

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



# Hiking



Yosemite High Country *NPS Photo by Jed Friedman*

## Choose your adventure

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

## 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 <b>Trail to Columbia Rock</b>	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, 1 hour round-trip to Mirror Lake, 5 miles, loop around lake	Easy
Vernal Fall Footbridge	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16	1.4 miles round-trip, 1–2 hours	Moderate, 400-foot gain
Top of Vernal Fall	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16	3 miles round-trip, 2–4 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Nevada Fall	same as above	7 miles round-trip, 5–6 hours	Strenuous 1,900-foot gain
Top of Half Dome	same as above	14 mi (via Mist Trail) or 16.3 mi (via John Muir Trail) round-trip, 10–12 hours	Extremely Strenuous, 4,800-foot gain
Four Mile Trail to Glacier 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

Note: Bicycles are not allowed where indicated or on any unpaved trails.

## Day Hikes Outside of Yosemite Valley

TRAIL / DESTINATION	STARTING POINT	DISTANCE / TIME	DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION
WAWONA			
<b>Wawona Meadow Loop</b>	Wawona Hotel	3.5 miles round-trip, 1.5 hours	Easy
<b>Swinging Bridge Loop</b>	Wawona Store / Pioneer Yosemite Hist. Ctr. Parking Area	4.75 miles round-trip, 2 hours	Moderate
GLACIER POINT ROAD			
<b>Taft Point</b>	Sentinel Dome Parking Area	2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours	Easy to Moderate
<b>Sentinel Dome</b>	Sentinel Dome Parking Area	2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours	Moderate
TUOLUMNE MEADOWS AREA			
<b>Soda Springs / Parsons Lodge</b>	Lembert Dome Parking Area	1.5 miles round-trip, 1 hour	Easy
<b>Lembert Dome</b>	Lembert Dome Parking Area	4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours	Moderately Strenuous
<b>John Muir Trail through Lyell Canyon</b>	Dog Lake Parking Area	8 miles one-way, 3 to 4 hours	Easy, 200-foot gain
<b>Elizabeth Lake</b>	Tuolumne Meadows Group Campground	4.8 miles round trip, 4 to 5 hours	Moderate
TIOGA ROAD			
<b>Lukens Lake</b>	White Wolf <sup>1</sup>	5.4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours	Moderate
<b>Yosemite Valley via Porcupine Creek</b>	Porcupine Creek <sup>1</sup>	7 miles one-way, 4 to 6 hours	Moderate, 3,500- to 4,000-foot loss
<b>Yosemite Valley via Yosemite Creek</b>	Lukens Lake Trailhead <sup>1</sup>	10.5 miles one-way, 5 to 9 hours	Moderately Strenuous 3,500- to 4,000-foot loss
<b>Yosemite Valley via Clouds Rest</b>	Tenaya Lake <sup>1</sup>	19 miles one-way, 10 to 12 hours	Strenuous
HETCH HETCHY			
<b>Wapama Falls</b>	O’Shaughnessy Dam	5 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours	Easy to Moderate

<sup>1</sup>These are drop-off points via the Tuolumne Meadows Hikers’ Bus.

## Trail Etiquette

Respect Yosemite’s resources and fellow hikers by considering the following as you enjoy your time on the trail:

- Dispose of waste properly. Carry out all trash (litter, toilet paper, hygiene products) and leftover food. Deposit solid human waste in a six-inch deep hole, at least 100 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the hole when finished. Do not burn toilet paper .

- Leave what you find. Collecting plants, cones, reptiles and butterflies, picking up archeological items (such as arrowheads) and using metal detectors are all prohibited in the park.

- Avoid the construction of rock cairns by utilizing a map and compass for navigation.

- Seek the advice and expertise of rangers in Visitor Centers and Wilderness Centers for planning a hike or wilderness trip.

- Yield to hikers travelling uphill.

- Cutting shortcuts causes erosion. Stay on designated trails.

- Store your food properly during day hike and backpacking trips. During the day, keep all food within armsreach. Store all food within bear canisters or bear lockers during backpacking trips. Not only is human food unhealthy for wildlife, but animals who obtain it can become aggressive, and sometimes have to be killed as a result.

- Respect wildlife by observing them from a distance. If an animal changes its behavior when it sees you, you are too close. Report wildlife sightings to rangers in the Visitor and Wilderness Centers.

- Yield to pack animals. Share the trail and allow them plenty of space on narrow trails.

- Think before you swim. Waterways can be dangerous. Swimming is prohibited both in Hetch Hetchy reservoir and Emerald Pool (above Nevada Fall).





# The Ever-Changing Celebration

by Margaret Eissler



Bilberry and willow in the high country Photo by Karen Amstutz

The year has always seemed to me a circle—a ring with a jewel at the top. The jewel is summer in Tuolumne Meadows, a gleaming, magical celebration of time and place.

Tuolumne Meadows stands at 8,600 feet above sea level. The designated Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River meanders through broad subalpine meadows surrounded by peaks and domes. In the high mountains, winter lasts most of the year. The jewel, then, is not simply “summer” but rather three seasons—spring, summer, and fall—compressed into the calendar months typically called “summer.”

Everything has to happen quickly in this short time. It’s a wild dance, a flurry of activity. The early blooming of shooting stars and buttercups begins a rapid succession of flowering events across eight to ten weeks, an intense period of buds unfolding to bloom, then seed, then plants stocking up energy in their roots in preparation for next spring. Mosquitoes and dragonflies emerge from the lakes and ponds. Frog eggs hatch into tadpoles. Lodgepole pines release their pollen. Deer give birth to fawns. Baby Belding’s ground squirrels and yellow-bellied marmots appear. Birds mate, nest, lay eggs, and feed nestlings that quickly fledge.

There is no time to lose. It’s all about reproductive survival. It is simultaneously serious business and a vibrant celebration of life.

If you took the same walk everyday, you would notice something different each time: a new flower in bloom, another gone to seed; a robin’s nest brimming with demanding, hungry mouths, then an empty nest; a hawk, dive-bombed by jays and robins, sitting on a branch, eating one of these fledglings; the hermit thrush singing its flute-like song and then, suddenly, mid-season, silent.

*“All of us join this wild celebration when we visit the high mountains.”*

Summer soon overlaps the end of spring. The higher sections of the meadows dry and turn golden brown. The river, once loud and raging, dwindles, becomes quiet and easy to cross. The white gentians (*Gentiana newberryi*) show up with frilly petals. Pale green dots inside lure pollinators to nectar deep within their bell-shaped flowers. This and two other gentian species are the last to bloom in these high meadows.

They signal the coming of fall and the approach of winter.

Although every year is different, I’ve noticed autumn arriving around the third weekend of August. You can hear the seasonal change. Wind blows through the tops of the lodgepole pines. The kingfishers arrive and make their rattling calls as they fly the river course. The Townsend’s solitaire, a robin-like bird, sings endless warbling songs from the tops of trees, seemingly without taking a breath. The chickaree, also known as

the Douglas tree squirrel, becomes more active and noisy as it makes last preparations for winter. The bilberry, a meadow ground cover, turns fiery orange and red. The days are noticeably shorter. Freezing nights frost the meadow grasses and sedges. There’s an excitement in the air, a sense of urgency and anticipation. The bears are extra hungry. It could snow any time.

A raven clicks and croaks in the tree just beyond my cabin door. Brewer’s blackbirds flock together, “whirl in the autumn winds” as the poet says, and leave their many tracks in the snow. It’s the end of September, time to pack up and move to lower elevations before the big snowstorms come. Some animals stay, but most leave for the long winter.

All of us join this wild celebration when we visit the high mountains. Clearly we are just one small part of everything that is going on. We become aware that plants and animals have no time to recover if something goes wrong—like the damage caused by a few people walking on these fragile meadows. This awareness inspires respect, a thoughtfulness about how to be in this place: where we put our feet, where we picnic, how fast we drive. Everything is alive, vibrant, yet delicately balanced within this short span of time.

The year has always seemed to me a circle—a ring with a jewel at the top. I wear it always and try to live up to what it stands for: a marriage of sorts, a commitment to place, an awareness of relationship with everything else. Maybe we all wear place rings. We all live within the circle of the year and a cycle of seasons. Which ring do you wear? Where is your place?



# Supporting Your Park

## Enhance the Visitor Experience

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

This publication was made possible by the Yosemite Park Partners listed on this page. Read more below or visit [www.yosemitepartners.org](http://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](http://www.anseladamsgallery.com).



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### 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](http://www.YosemitePark.com)



### NatureBridge

NatureBridge provides residential field science programs for youth in the world's most spectacular classroom - Yosemite National Park. Through active student engagement, our faculty teaches science, history, and the arts and gives these subjects context through personal experience. A NatureBridge learning adventure strives to foster a life-long connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it. Find out more about our year-round programs for schools and summer programs for individual teens at [www.naturebridge.org/yosemite](http://www.naturebridge.org/yosemite)



### Yosemite Conservancy

Through the support of donors, Yosemite Conservancy provides grants and support to Yosemite National Park to help preserve and protect Yosemite today and for future generations. The work funded by Yosemite Conservancy is visible throughout the park, from trail rehabilitation to wildlife protection and habitat restoration. The Conservancy is dedicated to enhancing the visitor experience and providing a deeper connection to the park through outdoor programs, volunteering and wilderness services. Thanks to dedicated supporters, the Conservancy has provided more than \$75 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Donate now or learn more at [www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org) or call 1-800-469-7275.



**YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY**

*Providing For Yosemite's Future*

## Yosemite Anniversaries

Did you know that the Yosemite Grant Act, signed by Abraham Lincoln on June 30, 1864, was the first land grant to protect wild lands for the enjoyment of people? With the help of many partners and friends, we are hosting a nation-wide commemorative effort to honor the 150th anniversary of this significant event that spurred the national park idea. In addition, this fall, the Yosemite Conservancy will release a new Dayton Duncan book, *Seed of the Future*, a collection of 150 published visitor stories, and a special Ken Burns' documentary to honor this milestone.



### INSPIRING GENERATIONS

Visit [www.nps.gov/yose/anniversary](http://www.nps.gov/yose/anniversary) to learn more and to see the latest calendar of over 100 anniversary activities that are happening from the fall of 2013 through the summer of 2014. You can participate in many of these activities while you are staying in or passing through one of our neighboring communities.

## Park Planning

"National Parks are the embodiment of an idea, an idea that when it was first proclaimed was as radical and unique as the Declaration of Independence. Which was to say that a nation's most majestic and special and, some would say, sacred places should be set aside not for the rich and for royalty and the well-connected, but for everyone and for all time. If we make the fight, if we give that energy, to protect this place, future generations will look back on what we did and say thank you." - Dayton Duncan, writer and producer of Ken Burns, "The National Parks: America's Best Idea." Visit our park planning webpage to learn about current plans in place to protect Yosemite and how you can get involved at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/planning.htm>.

