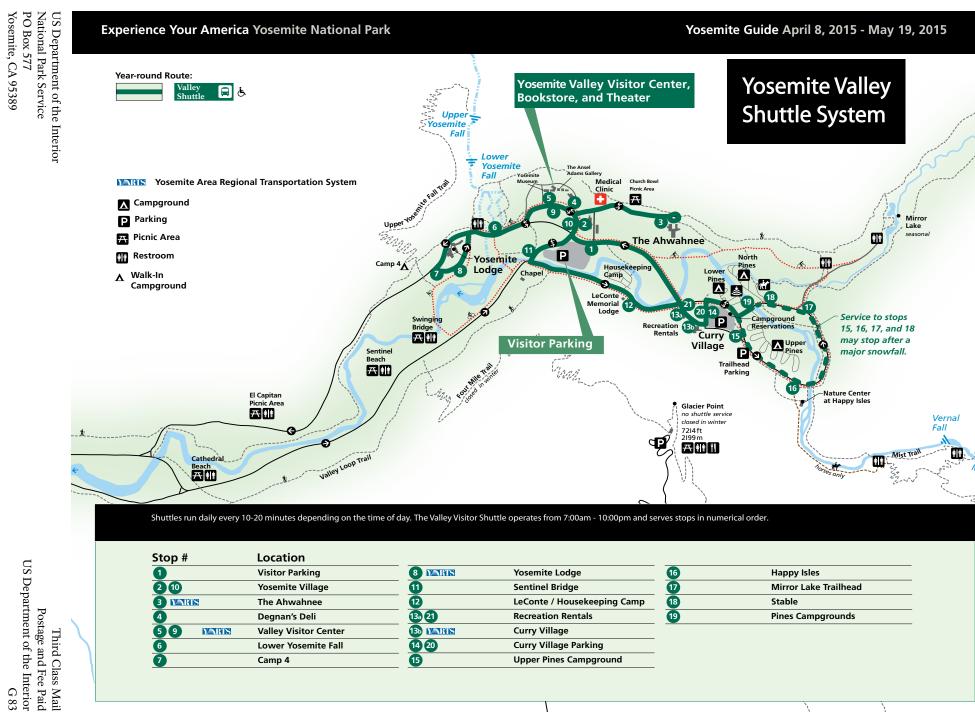
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April 8, 2015 - May 19, 2015

mite Valley Photo courtesy of Christine Fey



# Sosemite Guide

# Seasonal Highlights

There's more! Check out the Calendar Section for a schedule of special park programs...

elebrate Earth Day, National Junior Ranger Day, National Volunteer Week, and National Park Week with us! There's a lot going on in the park, check out the special Calendar Section of this Guide to help you make the most of your visit!

## Celebrate Yosemite's 125th Birthday!

On October 1, 2015, the park will commemorate the 125th anniversary of the establishment of Yosemite National Park. President Benjamin Harrison signed the legislation, thereby creating the nation's third National Park. The establishment of Yosemite National Park preserved over 1,500 square miles of land including Tuolumne Meadows, the park's high country, Hetch Hetchy, and lands surrounding Yosemite Valley. Check out the special pull out anniversary calendar section included in this issue, or check the Anniversary Website at www.nps.gov/ yose/anniversary for information about events happening all year.

#### Visit the Yosemite Museum

Learn about Yosemite Indians by exploring a museum collection that includes remarkable woven baskets and traditional dress. Tour the outdoor Indian Village or talk with an Indian cultural demonstrator. The Yosemite Museum is located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See page 6.)

#### 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, Yosemite Indians and more.

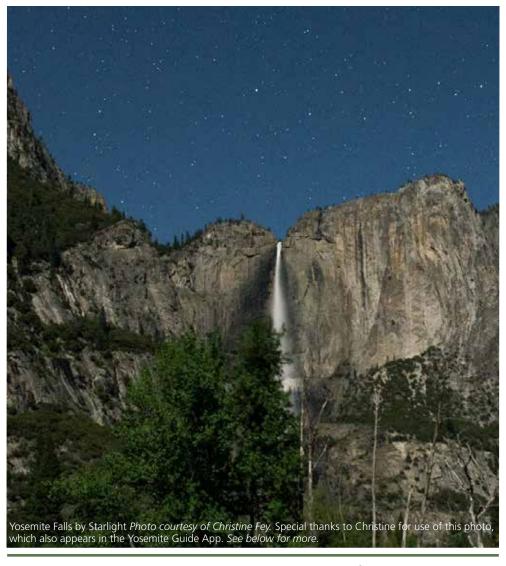
#### Walk to a Waterfall

Yosemite Valley is famous for its aweinspiring 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. (See page 17 for hiking information.)

## Visit the other valley, Hetch Hetchy

"Almost an exact counterpart of the Yosemite...a visit to its counterpart may be recommended, if it be only to see how curiously nature has repeated herself." -Josiah D. Whitney.

Hetch Hetchy provides spectacular vistas, waterfalls, and early season hiking.



Spring is a great time to visit. Yosemite's waterfalls boom in early spring, and lower elevation wildflowers are a riot of color.

#### 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. Some have fees, some are free. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 5 and 6.)

## Get Outdoors with Yosemite Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing Yosemite's wonders. Spend a weekend observing the lives of birds or summit Half Dome with an expert leading you every step of the way. Looking for a custom Yosemite experience? Contact us to plan a Custom Adventure for your family or group. Visit Yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or call 209/379-2317 x10.

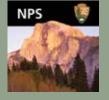
#### Go to the Theater

After a day filled with exploring, relax and enjoy a show at the Yosemite Theater. Yosemite Theater presents a variety of experiences, including plays based on some of the park's most colorful characters, inspiring films, and celebrations of Yosemite's culture and history. (See pg. 6 for shows and starting times.)



# Want the Guide on your Apple or Android device? Gearch NPS-Yosemite in app stores or at nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit to download the

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







Ar

#### Yosemite Art Center Workshops

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching and fun art workshops. Workshops are held Monday through Saturday in Yosemite Valley. There is a registration fee of \$10 per workshop per person. To register in advance, call 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 to 4:30pm (closed at 12pm for lunch). See page 6 for details.

### **Fee Changes**

As of March 1, 2015, a new fee structure has been implemented for Yosemite National Park. Entrance fees are as follows:

## Entrance Fee (Passes good for 7 days) Vehicle

- April 2015 October 2015 = \$30
- November 2015 March 2016 = \$25
- April 2016 October 2016 = \$30
- November 2016 March 2017 = \$25
- April 2017 = \$30 year round

**Motorcycle** (as of March 1) = \$15 Covers one or two people on a single motorcycle; valid for seven days

Individual (as of March 1) = \$15 In a bus, on a bicycle, horse, on foot

## Campground Fees\*: (As of March 1)

- 6 person site (fully staffed, water, flush toilets) \$20 fees all change to \$26
- 6 person site (non staffed, water, flush toilets) \$14 increase to \$18
- 6 person site (non-staffed primitive, no water, vault toilets) \$10 increase to \$12
- Group Sites \$40 fees all increase to \$50
- Horse Sites \$25 fees all increase to \$30
- Camp 4 and Backpackers Camps \$5/person increase to \$6/person

For more information on fee changes, please visit our website at nps.gov/yose/ planyourvisit/fees. htm

\*Interagency Senior/ Interagency Access Pass holders receive a 50% discount on all sites (except group sites)

## Discover Yosemite

### Let your curiosity guide you to new places

#### Entrance Fees\*

\*Effective March 1, 2015, entrance fees have changed in Yosemite National Park. Please visit nps.gov/ yose/planyourvisit/fees.htm for more information.

Vehicle Valid for 7 days April-October 2015

\$30 Motorcycle Valid for 7 days

\$15/motorcycle

**Individual** Valid for 7 days

In a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse.

**Yosemite Pass** 

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

**Lodging Reservations** 

www.yosemitepark.com

#### **Regional Info**

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

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

**Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau** 800/446-1333

www.tcvb.comHighway 41

**Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau** 559/683-4636

www.yosemitethisyear.com

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

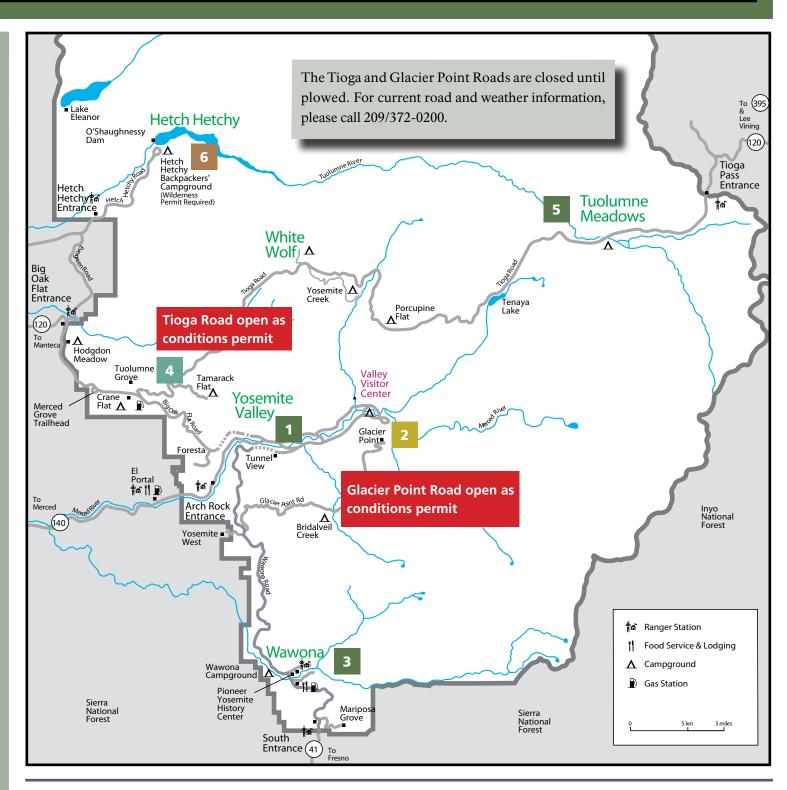
**Highway 140/49** 

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

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

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

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



### Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. It is open year round and may be reached via Highway 41 from Fresno, Highway 140 from Merced, Highway 120 West from Manteca, and via the Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) from Lee Vining. The Valley is known for massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, its plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and its attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow recharge it, a moderate hike will take you to Vernal and Nevada Falls. Yosemite's meadows are great places to see wildlife and to photograph fall colors. Admire El Capitan, the massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the Valley by foot, bike, car or with a tour, the scenery will leave you in awe and eager to see what's around the next corner.



Granite, the Merced River, trees, and meadows compose the Valley's unique blend. Photo by Christine White Loberg

### Glacier Point Road

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and Yosemite's high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. When the road is snow-covered and conditions permit, a system of cross-country ski tracks are maintained on it. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), then turn left onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating viewlooking down 3,214 feet into Yosemite Valley.

### Wawona and Mariposa Grove

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park's south entrance station. When weather permits, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is a short drive from Wawona. The grove road is closed to vehicles after the first big snowstorm, making it a peaceful hike or snowshoe for winter adventurers. 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.

### Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

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

### Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

The Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. The road closes after the first big snowfall, and overnight parking ends on October 15. The road's elevation ranges from 6,200 to just under 10,000 feet. Tuolumne Meadows embodies the high-country of the Sierra Nevada. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. In winter, Tuolumne Meadows is often reached by skiers via the Snow Creek Trail from the Mirror Lake trailhead, a short distance east of Yosemite Valley.

### **Hetch Hetchy**

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. The area's low elevation makes it a good place to hike in autumn and winter. The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles (1 hour 15 minutes) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from April 1st to April 30th from 8am to 7pm, then May 1st through Labor Day 7am to 9pm. Vehicles and/or trailers over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not permitted on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.





The view from Glacier Point. Photo by Jessica Cole



Snow at Wawona's covered bridge. Photo by Christine White Loberg



Tuolumne Meadows deep freeze. Photo by Wendy Malone



Cathedral Peak. Photo by Christine White Loberg



Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. Photo by Clarisa Flores

#### **Did You Know?**

- Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias were originally protected as a state park. An act of congress signed by President Abraham Lincoln designated these icons to be preserved for public enjoyment. This landmark legislation planted the seed of the national park idea.
- Yosemite National Park originally included Devil's Postpile National Monument and the Minarets, located on the east-side of the park.
- The original boundary of Yosemite National Park featured straight east-west and north-south lines. Since then, the eastern boundary of the park has been adjusted to follow the highest ridge, or divide, of watersheds that feed the Merced and Tuolumne River drainages.

# Yosemite Valley

## Spectacular opportunities in the heart of the park

#### Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery before you. See pages 5-6 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

The base of Lower Yosemite Fall is an easy walk from shuttle stop #6. (Both Upper and Lower Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow return.) This hike features educational exhibits and a picnic area, and is accessible to the mobility impaired.

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

El Capitan, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan. *Note:* Delicate meadows are easily damaged by trampling, so please stay on footpaths.

Half Dome, Yosemite's most distinctive monument, dominates many views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook's Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, Glacier Point, and Olmsted Point are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome. A permit is required to summit Half Dome. Information about Half Dome permits is available on our website at www.nps.gov/yose.

Tunnel View, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, including El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral How about a trail ride? Horse or mule Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is particularly spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

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

To experience Yosemite with a guide, check page 5 of this newspaper or the Yosemite Guide app to find out about scheduled programs, or visit any tour desk. Tours of Yosemite Valley depart several times daily, and half- and full-day tours to Glacier Point and the Mariposa Grove area available when conditions permit.



Tunnel View, Yosemite Valley, No. 1, platinum/palladium Kerik Kouklis, Award-Winner, Yosemite Renaissance XXX Exhibit--Yosemite Museum Gallery.

#### **Experience 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.

Like to bike? Several miles of bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from the Yosemite Lodge or Curry Village Bike Stands. (Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

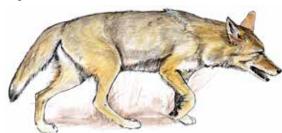
rides begin at the stable near North Pines Campground. Open March 27, conditions permitting. Stable hours are 8am to 5pm, with 2 hour rides at 9am, noon, and 3pm. Information: 209/372-8348 (reservations strongly recommended).

Feel like climbing the walls? Yosemite Mountaineering School is open for guided hikes, as well as rock climbing lessons and guided climbs. Please contact YMS at 209-372-8344 to inquire about our exciting adventures! (Reservations are required)

#### Camping in Yosemite

Reservations are required March 15 through November for Yosemite Valley's car campgrounds and summer through fall for Hodgdon Meadow, Crane Flat, Wawona, and half of Tuolumne Meadows. Campground reservations are available in blocks of one month at a time, up to five months in advance, on the 15th of each month at 7 am Pacific time. Be aware that nearly all reservations for the months of May through September and for some other weekends are filled the first day they become available, usually within seconds or minutes after 7 am! To make reservations, visit www.recreation.gov (recommended) or call 877/444-6777

Some first-come, first served camping is available in Yosemite Valley at Camp 4, and outside the Valley, conditions permitting.



#### **POST OFFICE**

Yosemite Village

Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm Saturday: 10am to noon

Yosemite Lodge

Monday - Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm

El Portal

Monday - Friday: 8:30am - 1pm &

1:30pm - 3pm

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

Saturday: 9am to noon

#### **BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL**

Yosemite Village The Ansel Adams Gallery

**Yosemite Bookstore** 

9am to 5pm

Yosemite Museum Store

9am to 5pm, may close for lunch

Village Store 8am to 9pm **Habitat Yosemite** 

Thurs-Sun11am to 4pm

Yosemite Village Sport Shop 10am to 5pm

The Ahwahnee

The Ahwahnee Gift Shop

The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop

Yosemite Lodge

Gift/Grocery 8am to 8pm

Nature Shop 10am to 7pm

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

Wawona Area **Wawona Store and Pioneer Gift** 

Crane Flat Area Crane Flat Grocery 9am to 5pm

All issue illustrations courtesy of Tom Whitworth

## Events and Programs

Where to go and what to do

		YOSEMITE VALLEY	WAWONA
Sunday	8:00am 9:30 am 10:00am 11:00am 1:30pm 2:30pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 6:45pm 7:30pm 7:30pm 7:30pm 8:00pm 8:00pm	Yosemite Day Hike The Song of Birds (April 26 only) 7 hrs. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 x10. (YC)\$  JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) &  Ranger Walk -Bears (Except May 3, 10, 17) 1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9  Ask A Climber (begins May 17) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) &  Beginner Art Workshop 2.5 hrs. Yosemite Art Center (YC) \$  GREAT YOSEMITE FAMILY ADVENTURE (Except April 12) 2 hrs. Guided treasure hunt with clues and GPS units. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$  Ranger Walk - Bears (May 3, 10, 17 only) 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19  Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DN) &  WEE WILD ONES (Except April 12) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) &  Yosemite Theater Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Solider, 1903. 1.5 hrs. (Starting May 3) Film and presentation by Park Ranger Shelton Johnson. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore (YC)\$  Yosemite Photography Magic of the "Moonbow" (May 3 only) 4 hrs. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 x10. (YC) \$  Full Moon Bike Ride 2hrs. (May 3 only) Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) \$  Evening Program Tom Bopp, John Muir Historian: John Muir & Teddy Roosevelt in Yosemite: 1903 (May 3 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests. Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN/NPS) &  NIGHT PROWL 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$	CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children
Monday	9:00am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 1:00pm 4:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 8:30pm	Camera Walk - Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel 1.5 hrs. (TAAG)  Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information, see page 6. (YC)\$  Ranger Walk - Yosemite's First People 1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) &  Ask A Climber (begins May 18) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS &  Using Your Digital Camera 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$  Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DN) &  Yosemite Theater Yosemite Search and Rescue (Starting May 4) 1.5 hrs. Entertaining presentation by Yosemite's Search and Rescue Park Rangers. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Booksto (YC)\$  Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN/NPS) &  STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE 1.5 hrs. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) & \$	
Tuesday	8:30am 9:00am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 11:00pm 1:00pm 3:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm	Yosemite Bird Walk 2 hrs. Meet at the Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to explore the springtime birds of Yosemite Valley. (YC)\$  Camera Walk - Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) &  Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information, see page 6. (YC)\$  Ranger Walk - Geology (April 14,21,28 only) 1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS)  Ask A Climber (begins May 19) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS)  Yosemite Plants Walk 2 hrs. Meet at the Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to explore the springtime plants and flowers of Yosemite Valley. (YC)\$  In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$  Ranger Walk - Bears (May 5, 12, 19 only) 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19  Yosemite Theater Meet Galen Clark: Yosemite's First Guardian 1.5 hrs. Live performance about the life of Yosemite's first protector, starring Pete Devine, an expert Yosemite naturalist. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC)\$  Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN/NPS) &	5:30pm Vintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Specific programs are available upon request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DN) &
Wednesday	10:00am 10:00am 3:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:00pm	Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information, see page 6. (YC)\$ Ranger Walk – Generations (Except May 6,13) 1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) & Ranger Walk – Bears (May 6,13 only)1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 Yosemite Theater The Spirit of John Muir 1.5 hrs. Hear John Muir's most popular stories about his adventures in the wild and the people and animals he encountered along the way, starring Lee Stetson. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC)\$ Full Moon Bike Ride 2hrs. (April 29 only) Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN)\$ Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN/NPS) &	5:30pm Vintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Specific programs are available upon request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DN) &
Thursday	8:30am 9:00am 10:00am 10:00am 1:00pm 1:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 6:45pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:00pm 8:30pm	Yosemite Bird Walk 2 hrs. Meet at the Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to explore the springtime birds of Yosemite Valley. (YC)\$ Camera Walk - Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) & Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information, see page 6. (YC)\$ Ranger Walk - Trees (Except May 7, 14) 1½ hrs. The Ahwahnee, shuttle stop #3 (NPS) & Yosemite Plants Walk 2 hrs. Meet at the Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to explore the springtime plants and flowers of Yosemite Valley. (YC)\$ Using Your Digital Camera 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Anse Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$ Ranger Walk - Bears (May 7, 14 only) 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DN) & WEE WILD ONES 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN) & Yosemite Theater Ask John Muir (Except April 23 & April 30) 1.5 hrs. Interactive performance, with Lee Stetson as John Muir. Enjoy his tales and opinions of yesteryear and present day. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC)\$ Full Moon Bike Ride 2hrs. (April 30 only) Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) \$ Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DN/NPS) & STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (Except April 30) 1.5 hrs. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) \$	5:30pm Vintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Specific programs are available upon request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DN) &
Friday	10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 11:00am 2:30pm 3:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:00pm 8:00pm 8:00pm 8:00pm	Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information, see page 6. (YC)\$ Ranger Walk – Wildlife (Except May 8,15) 1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) & Ask A Climber (begins May 15) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) & GREAT YOSEMITE FAMILY ADVENTURE (Except April 17) 2 hrs. Guided treasure hunt with clues and GPS units. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$ Ranger Walk – Bears (May 8 only) 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 Ranger Walk – Wildlife: Endangered Species (May 15 only) 1 1/2 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) & Yosemite Theater Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey 1.5 hrs. Film & discussion with renowned climber Ron Kauk. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC)\$ Full Moon Bike Ride 2hrs. (May 1 only) Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN)\$ Film - Ansel Adams (except April 17 & 24) 1hr. Check local listing for venue (TAAG) & Evening Program Larry Simon, LeConte Historian: Joseph Nisbet LeConte. Exploring, Mapping & Photographing the High Sierra 1890 to 1930 (May 1 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.  Evening Program Ben Cunningham-Summerfield, CA Tribal Member: American Indian Flute and Storytelling (May 8 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.  Evening Program Lee Terkelsen, Nature Film Maker: Along the John Muir Trail: Narrated Hiking Video (May 15 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.  NIGHT PROWL (Except April 17) 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) & \$	Bopp. Specific programs are available upon request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DN) &
Saturday	9:00am 9:00am 9:00am 9:30am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 1:00pm 2:30pm 3:00pm 3:30pm 4:00pm 6:45pm	A Walk Through the Dogwoods Enchantments of Yosemite Valley's West End (May 9 only) 6 hrs. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 x10 (YC)\$  Camera Walk - Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1.5 hrs. (TAAG) &  Yosemite Day Hike World Famous Waterfalls and Hidden Gems (April 11 only) 7 hrs. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 x10 (YC)\$  JUNIOR RANGER TALK (except April 18) 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) &  Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information, see page 6 (YC)\$  Ranger Walk -Ahwahneechee Stories and Games 1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9 (NPS) &  Ask A Climber (begins May 16) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS)  In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$  GREAT YOSEMITE FAMILY ADVENTURE 2 hrs. (Except April 18) Guided treasure hunt with clues and GPS units. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$  Fine Print Viewing 1hr. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. Very limited space (TAAG) &  Strings in Spring Violinist Martin Chalifour at Yosemite Valley Chapel (April 25 only) Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 x10 (YC)\$  Naturalist Stroll (Except April 18) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DN) &  WEE WILD ONES (Except April 18) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. Near the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. (DN) &	5:30pm Vintage Music of Yosemite 4 hrs. Live music and historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Specific programs are available upon request, usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening and ask Tom or stop by the front desk. Wawona Hotel Lounge (DN) &
Sa	7:00pm 7:30pm 8:00pm 8:00pm 8:00pm 8:00pm 8:30pm 8:30pm	Vosemite Theater Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey 1.5 hrs. Film & discussion with renowned climber Ron Kauk. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) Full Moon Bike Ride 2hrs. (May 2 only) Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls Amphitheater. (DN/NPS) & Evening Program Jeremy Evans, Nature Photographer, "Range of Light, After Dark: Landscapes from Yosemite to Mt. Whitney Under the Moon & Stars (May 2 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.  Evening Program Stephen Joseph, Landscape Photographer: Everything I Photograph: Yosemite, Muir Woods, Mt. Diablo, and Vasco Caves (May 9 only) 1 hr. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.  Evening Program John Dill, YNP Search & Rescue Ranger: Search and Rescue in Yosemite (May 16 only) 11/2 hrs. LeConte Memorial Lodge. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) Limited to 50 guests.  NIGHT PROWL (Except April 18) 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DN) \$ \$  STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (Except April 18 and May 2) 1.5 hrs. Explore the night sky! Tickets and information available at any tour desk. (DN) \$	NPS National Park Service  DN Delaware North  TAAG The Ansel Adams Gallery  YC Yosemite Conservancy  \$ Programs offered for a fee Program is accessible



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, or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 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.



Sign Language interpreting is available upon request. Contact Deaf Services at 209/379-5250 (v/txt). Two weeks advance notice is requested. Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advance request, inquire at a 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.

## Things to Do

### Yosemite Valley



#### Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

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

#### **YOSEMITE FILMS**

Two films are shown daily, every half hour beginning at 9:30am (except on Sundays, when the first showing is at noon). The last film is at 4:30pm. "Ken Burns' Yosemite--A Gathering of Spirit" plays on the hour and The Spirit of Yosemite" plays on the half hour. Valley Visitor Center Theater.

#### Yosemite Museum

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

#### **INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT**

Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite's Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

#### **YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE**

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

#### Yosemite Renaissance XXX Exhibition

#### **ART EXHIBIT**

Yosemite Renaissance is an annual exhibit, now in its thirtieth year, which encourages diverse interpretations of Yosemite and the environment of the Sierra Nevada. Its goals are to bring together the works of serious contemporary artists that do not simply

duplicate traditional representations; to establish a continuum with past generations of Yosemite artists; and to help re-establish visual art as a major interpretive medium of the landscape and a stimulus to the protection of the environment. For this year's competitive exhibit there were approximately 750 entries, resulting in an exhibit of 49 paintings, graphics, photographs and 3-dimensional pieces by artists throughout the country. Through May 10.

#### Wilderness Permits

The Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center will open May 1st and be open daily from 8am to 5pm. Wilderness permits, bear canisters, and a variety of maps and books are available. Until May 1st, wilderness permits and bear canisters can be obtained at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center seven days a week from 9am to 5pm.

#### The Ansel Adams Gallery

In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9am to 5pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, other photographers and artists, camera walks, workshops, and classes. Activities are listed on the front porch. Call 209/372-4413, or visit.anseladams.com.

#### 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 pm. Seating is available for 50 guests. The Memorial, located at shuttle stop #12, has a natural history library, children's corner and library, and historical exhibits. Call 209/ 372-4542 for program

#### Yosemite Conservancy **Outdoor Adventures**

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.

April 10 - April 12: Learning to Lead and "Leave No Trace" Trainer Backpack April 11: Yosemite Day Hike: World-Famous Waterfalls and Hidden Gems

April 25: Strings in Spring: Violinist Martin Chalifour at Yosemite Valley Chapel April 26: Yosemite Day Hike: The Song of

April 30 - May 6: Yosemite Photography: Spring Full Moon Tour

May 3: Yosemite Photography: Magic of the

May 9: A Walk Through the Dogwoods: Yosemite Valley's West End

May 14 - May 17: Yosemite Photography: Capture the Spring Light

Find detailed information about these programs at yosemiteconservancy.org/ adventures or call 209/379-2317 x10. 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. Yosemite Theater (YC)

#### Yosemite Art Center (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to join one of our celebrated artists for a handson art experience in Yosemite Valley. Art workshops are offered from 10am to 2pm Monday through Saturday. There is a registration fee of \$10 per participant. Art supplies are available for purchase.

Catch Yosemite's Light in Watercolor April 13 - April 19: Penny McCrea Painting with Pastels April 20 - April 25: Juan Peña Magic of Watercolor April 27 – May 3: Natalie Chan Essence of Yosemite with Charcoal/Graphite May 4 – May 9: Frank Eber

April 6 – April 11: Steve Curl

Atmospheric Watercolor May 11 – May 16: Geri Medway Painting a Treasure: Yosemite in Watercolor May 18 - May 23: Sonja Hamilton Watercolor Spring in Yosemite

The Yosemite Art Center is located in Yosemite Village next to the Village Store

#### Yosemite Theater (YC)

Yosemite Theater 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, available at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Bookstore.

Sundays (May 3 – Sept 27) Yosemite Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Soldier, 1903

Mondays (May 4 – Oct 5) Yosemite Search and Rescue Tuesdays (April 14 – June 23) Meet Galen Clark: Yosemite's First Guardian Wednesdays (April 8 – June 17) The Spirit of John Muir Thursdays (April 9 – June 18) Ask John Muir

Fridays & Saturdays (April 10 – June 20) Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey

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

#### FOOD & BEVERAGE

Yosemite Village

**Degnan's Delicatessen** 7am to 5pm **Village Grill** 11am to 5pm

The Ahwahnee

**Dining Room**Breakfast: 7am to 10am
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm

Dinner: Sun- Thurs: 5:30 to 8:30pm
Fri & Sat 5:30 to 9pm
Sunday Grand Brunch: 7am to 2pm
Mother's Day Brunch: 7am to 3pm
Appropriate attire required for dinner.
Reservations recommended for dinner and Sunday Brunch. 209/372-1489.

The Coffee Bar 7am to 10:30am
The Ahwahnee Bar 11:30am to 11pm

**Food Court** 

Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm Dinner: Sun - Thurs 5pm to 8:30pm Fri & Sat: 5pm to 9pm \*last 30 minutes are grab and go only

Mountain Room Lounge

Monday - Fri: 4:30pm - 11pm Sat & Sun: noon-11pm

Mountain Room Restaurant Sun-Thurs: 5pm to 8:30pm Fri& Sat 5pm to 9pm

Reservations taken for 8 or more. 209/372-1281

Pavilion

Breakfast: 7am to 10am Dinner: 5:30pm to 8pm

The Grill at the Meadow Deck 11am to 5pm beginning April 17 (conditions permitting)

Pizza Deck

Mon - Fri 5pm to 10pm and Sat & Sun 12pm to 10pm Open daily 12pm to 10pm begnning April 18

Coffee Corner 7am to 11am 6am to 10pm beginning May 16 Wawona

Wawona Hotel Dining Room

Breakfast: 7:30am to 10am Lunch: 11:30am to 1:30pm Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm Reservations taken for 6 or more, 209/375-1425 Mother's Day Brunch, May 10 ONLY 10:30am to 2pm Reservations required for Mother's Day Brunch 801/559-4935

Lounge Service: 5pm to 9:30pm

#### GROCERIES

Yosemite Lodge

Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm ⁄osemite Village

Village Store

8am to 9pm

Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm Wawona

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop

8am to 6pm Crane Flat 9am to 5pm

#### GAS STATIONS

#### Gas outside Yosemite Valley

El Porta

Diesel available

Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card Wawona

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

Diesel available. Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY

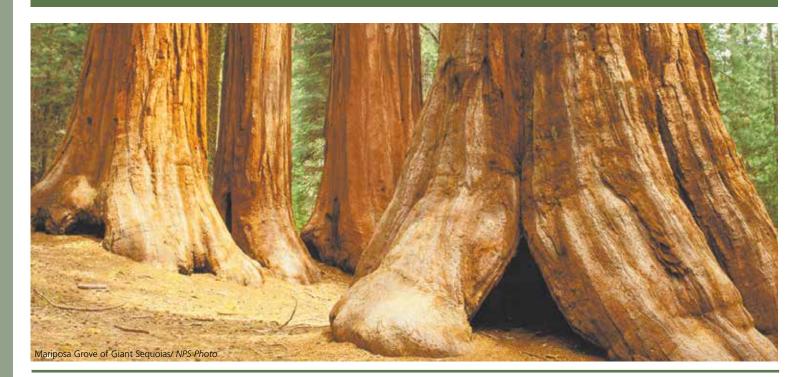
**Curry Village Showers** 

Open 24 hours

Housekeeping Camp Laundromat

8am to 10pm

## Beyond the Valley



## Wawona & Mariposa Grove

Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio

Starting May 8th, the bookstore (only) will be open daily from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch. The Visitor Center offers general information and a variety of books and maps. Wilderness permits can be obtained by self-registration on the porch of Hill's Studio. Please come prepared with proper food storage.

#### 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 open throughout year.

#### Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park's largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees. A few of these giants are visible in the parking area. The road to the Grove typically closes in November or December. Visitors can walk, ski, or snowshoe when the road is closed to vehicles.

#### **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.

#### 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 Tree provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead in Spanish, German, French, and Japanese. When the ground is snow-covered, access is limited to foot, snowshoe, or ski.

Dogs and bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Mariposa Grove.

### Big Oak Flat

Big Oak Flat Information Station Starting May 8th, the bookstore (only) will be open daily from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch. The Information Station offers general information and a variety of books and maps. Wilderness permits can be obtained by self-registration on the porch of the Big Oak FlatInformation Station. Please come prepared with proper food

#### 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, ski, or snowshoe 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 in the area so be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is located  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of Crane Flat and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trail is marked by a sign and a post labeled B-10.

#### Tuolumne Grove

The trailhead for this grove of approximately 25 sequoias is near the intersection of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga roads at Crane Flat. The moderately strenuous trail leads downhill from the \*parking area into the grove and drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. There is no potable water in the area so be sure to bring drinking water with you.

## Tuolumne Meadows Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center

The center is scheduled to open along with the Tioga Road. Please check the website for hours of operation. Wilderness permits, bear canisters, information, books, and maps are available. The center is located just as you turn onto the Tuolumne Lodge Road.

#### GENERAL SERVICES

VILLAGE GARAGE

8am to 5pm Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4:30pm. 209/372-1060

YOSEMITE MEDICAL CLINIC

The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm and is closed on Saturday and Sunday. 24-hour emergency ambulance service continues to be available. For emergency care after 5pm, call 9-1-1. For more information call 209/372-4637.

#### RELIGIOUS SERVICES

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH (YOSEMITE CHAPEL)

CHAPEL)
Pastor Brent Moore Resident Minister, 209/372-4831
www.yosemitevalleychapel.org

ANNUAL MARRIAGE RENEWAL SUNDAY:

May 3, 2015, 9:15am and 11am chapel services

SUNDAY SERVICES
9:15am Chapel

11:00 A.M. (Memorial Day-Labor Day ONLY)

6:30 P.M. Chapel

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7pm call for location

THURSDAY MIDWEEK SERVICE

7pm chapel

Various Bible Studies during the week call for times and locations.

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC

SUNDAY MASS CELEBRATIONS: Sunday, 10am, Theater behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, 209/372-4729

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

#### SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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

#### LIONS CLUB

Meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at noon, The Ahwahnee. 209/372-1464.

# Protecting yourself...



**Tunnel View** 

#### Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

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

#### **Around Ice and Water**

Stay off of frozen lakes, rivers and streams and away from swift waters. Keep children from wandering near these natural hazards. Never swim or wade upstream from 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. Mountain water is very cold, no matter what time of year it is. Yosemite's rivers are fed by melted snow, and even expert swimmers can quickly lose their strength in the icy water. Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

#### **Avoid Hypothermia**

Sierra winters are comparatively mild, but temperatures can drop into dangerous territory with little warning. Winter sports require a high degree of preparation and

- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.
- · Avoid the combination of wetness, wind, and cold.
- Know symptoms of hypothermia.
- Carry emergency fire-starting materials
- Avoid dehydration; carry and drink plenty of water at least three liters of water per person, and bring high-energy food.

#### **Water Quality**

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

#### Traffic Safety

Roads leading to the park are two-lane, arrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by obeying 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.

#### Hiking, Backpacking, Backcountry **Snow Travel, and Rock Climbing**

It is starting to get dark early, which means temperatures will drop fast. Prepare yourself with a headlamp and extra layers, even on day hikes. Also, trails may be closed after the first winter storm, due to either ice or rockfall hazards. For your safety, please respect these closures and do not bypass them. Here are a few more reminders before you hit the trails.

- •Tell someone your plan and when you hope to return.
- •Be prepared for icy travel before conditions arise. Bring crampons, ice axe, climbing skins, and other traction devices.
- · Carry a map and compass and know where you are at all times, with a planned route.
- · Altitude sickness can develop at altitudes as low as 8,000 feet. Descend to a lower elevation should it develop.
- •Know the weather and prepare for changes. Snow can occur with little warning, and can make route finding very difficult.
- Avoid dehydration; carry and drink plenty of water and bring high-energy
- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Bring a flashlight in case you need to stay on the trail longer than expected.
- Admire wildlife from a distance to prevent injury to you or animals.

#### Stay Safe

Many accidents occur because visitors leave a trail or pathway. Off trail travel can be extremely dangerous, especially next to waterways where rocks have been polished. Scrambling on boulders, wading across streams or rivers, and traveling beyond railings or other barriers may put you one slip away from a fatal accident. Avoid shortcuts. Visitors commonly get "ledged out" after cutting across trails.

#### **Wilderness Permit Details**

Wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Please see pages 6 and 7 of this Guide for more information about obtaining wilderness permits. For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Go to www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/ wildpermits for trailhead availability and more information on how to make a reservation. Reservations can be made by fax, phone or mail starting December 1. To make a reservation by phone, call (209) 372-0740 Mon-Fri from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Information about Half Dome permits is available on our website at www.nps. gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.

More Information

- www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/ backpacking.htm
- Leave No Trace www.lnt.org
- •Friends of Yosemite Search and Rescue www.friendofyosar.org

#### **Half Dome Permit Information**

The Half Dome Cables are down for the season. They will be put back up May 22, 2015 conditions permitting. Permits are required 7 days a week when the cables are up. The pre-season lottery application period for 2015 permits begins March 1, 2015 and ends March 31, 2015. To apply for permits visit recreation.gov or call 877/444-6777. More information about the Half Dome permit process is available at: http://www.nps.gov/ yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm.

#### **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 to humans via the droppings, urine, or saliva of infected rodents. Not all rodents are infected with hantavirus, but infected rodents have been found throughout the US. In California, deer mice are the primary carrier of the virus that causes HPS. You may come into close proximity to rodents during your visit, so it is important you take steps to protect yourself from HPS. HPS risk is greater inside of buildings or other enclosures where deer mice are present.

If staying in guest lodging, please tell the housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice in your accommodations. Do not clean up the area yourself. Keep doors to guest lodging shut and do not bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container. If you are camping and backpacking, do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings. HPS often begins with flu-like symptoms such as aches, fever, and chills one to seven weeks after exposure, progressing to cough and difficulty in breathing. Seek medical attention immediately if you experience these symptoms, and mention any potential rodent exposures to your physician. For more information on hantavirus and other environmental safety hazards visit: http://www. nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm

#### Avoid contact with wildlife and keep food and trash stored properly.

Wild animals in Yosemite can transmit numerous diseases, including plague, rabies, and hantavirus. Keeping your distance and your food from wildlife not only protects them, it also protects you from injury and exposure

If you encounter a mammal, particularly a raccoon, skunk, fox, coyote, or bat, that is behaving erratically, don't touch the animal. Instead, report the sick animal to a park employee. In addition to keeping bears away, storing your food properly also reduces your exposure to rodents and their fleas, which may carry plague.

## ...and Yosemite



**Keeping Bears Wild** 

Keep Yosemite's Black Bears Wild and Alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

#### **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.

Please report bear sightings by calling 209/372-0322.

#### **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.	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.

### 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 round-trip, 1 hour	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	5 miles round-trip, 5–6 hours	Strenuous 1,900-foot gain
Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Closed in winter)	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

#### Yosemite Guardians

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

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

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

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

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

## 125 Years of Yosemite National Park

Inspiring Generations: 1890 - 2015



"Here is calm so deep, grasses cease waving...the flowers bloom in our bodies as well as our souls, and every bird song, wind song, and; tremendous storm song of the rocks in the heart of the mountains is our song, our very own..."

John Muir -1870s (collected by Linnie Marsh Wolfe) – John of the Mountains, The Unpublished Journals of John Muir.

echoes the awe and affection we hold for this magnificent park. On October 1, 1890, an act of congress signed into law by President Benjamin Harrison protected over 1500 square miles of land comprising most of Yosemite National Park as we know it today. Without this act the beauty, serenity, and adventure that can be found among Yosemite's high alpine meadows, tall granite peaks, booming waterfalls, and pristine rivers may have been lost.

"When I had last seen the Yosemite National Park region, the face of the landscape in general was broken and wasted, like a beautiful countenance destroyed by some dreadful disease." John Muir - The National Parks and Forest Reservations.

ohn Muir's love affair with Yosemite A chaotic time in Yosemite's past spurred Muir's wrenching observation. The survival of many Giant Sequoias was threatened by more and more logging companies coming into the mountains. The high country was being overgrazed every year as flocks of sheep were driven to graze in fragile mountain meadows.

> Muir's contention was that the Sierra landscape had been so closely grazed that much of it looked like the inside of a heavily used corral. His excursions into the mountains, coupled with his everwatchful eye, convinced him that the lost vegetation led to rainstorms washing untold tons of soil into the formerly clear-running mountain rivers of his beloved Yosemite.

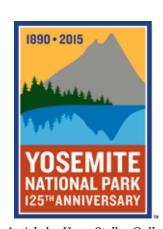
> Yosemite's fate hung in the balance as land outside Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove was increasingly altered and impacted. And, in true Sierra

fashion, what tipped the scales in favor of preservation was a legendary camping trip in 1889. Muir, the famous persuader, took Robert Johnson, editor of Century Magazine, out to experience Yosemite. Muir bent his ear by campfire and waterfall to bring Johnson to the cause. The big-time editor used his connections with railroad and agricultural powers along with the voice of his popular magazine for their campaign to protect the park. A few voices became many and the first steps towards better protection began. Yosemite National Park became an official national park in 1890, 125 years ago this year.

The establishment of Yosemite National Park provided for the protection of special places such as Tuolumne Meadows, Hetch Hetchy Valley, and the Merced and Tuolumne Groves of Giant Sequoias. Scores of spectacular peaks and domes and multitudes of streams that fed the Merced and Tuolumne Rivers were all protected on that historic day in 1890. Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias remained under the protection of the state of California as designated in the Yosemite Grant Act of 1864. John Muir continued his

labor of love for Yosemite with the goal of unifying all of Yosemite as a national park. Muir's vision was realized on June 11, 1906 when the state of California ceded Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove to the federal government.

As we commemorate this historic anniversary, we honor the stewardship of so many who were dedicated to Yosemite's future. We have learned a lot in the past 125 years about how to care for this revered park. We look ahead to the next 125 years knowing there will be new challenges in preserving the natural wonders entrusted to our care. It is important to remember that each of us can capture John Muir's spirit and be a Yosemite advocate.



Article by Kara Stella, Colleen Balch, and Gena Wood of Delaware North Interpretive Services

# Supporting Your Park

Providing for Yosemite's Future

#### **Enhance the Visitor Experience**

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

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



#### The Ansel Adams Gallery

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



#### **Contact Us**

#### **Yosemite National Park**

PO Box 577 9039 Village Drive Yosemite, CA 95389 209/372-0200 http://www.nps.gov/yose/contacts. htm

#### **The Ansel Adams Gallery**

PO Box 455 Yosemite, CA 95389 209/372-4413 209/372-4714 fax www.anseladams.com

#### **Delaware North**

PO Box 578 Yosemite, CA 95389 801/559-5000 www.yosemitepark.com

#### **Yosemite Conservancy**

101 Montgomery Street, Suite 1700 San Francisco, CA 94104 800/469-7275 415/434-0745 fax www.yosemiteconservancy.org

#### NatureBridge

PO Box 487 Yosemite, CA 95389 209/379-9511 209/379-9510 fax www.yni.org

#### **Delaware North**

Delaware North (DN) 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. DN encourages its employees to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure.

For more information and employment opportunities with Delaware North visit online at www.YosemitePark.com



#### **NatureBridge**

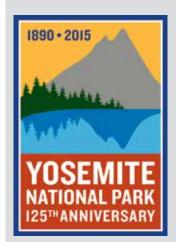
NatureBridge provides residential field science programs for youth in the world's most spectacular classroom-Yosemite National Park. Through active student engagement, our faculty teaches science, history, and the arts and gives these subjects context through personal experience. A NatureBridge learning 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



#### **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 \$92 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Donate now or learn more at www. yosemiteconservancy.org or call 800/469-7275.

#### **Celebrating Yosemite's 125th Anniversary!**



On October 1, 2015, the park will commemorate the 125th anniversary of the establishment of Yosemite National Park. President Benjamin Harrison signed the legislation, thereby creating the nation's third National Park. The establishment of Yosemite National Park preserved over 1,500 square miles of land including Tuolumne Meadows, the park's high country, Hetch Hetchy and lands surrounding Yosemite Valley.



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Providing For Yosemite's Future



Lower right: Raven, Karen Kroner Amstutz; Top right: Half Dome, Christine White Loberg