

Yosemite **Essentials**

Yosemite Guide



resources. to protect both visitors and park generations. Regulations are in place the benefit and enjoyment of future dedicated to protecting Yosemite for The National Park Service is

Prohibited activities include:

Using drones

•

- Feeding or approaching wildlife •
- Collecting plants and animals
- slemine pnitnuH
- such as arrowheads Picking up archeological items, •
- Using metal detectors ٠
- Driving vehicles into meadows •
- Biking off of paved roads ٠
- spunologues Camping outside of designated
- federal facilities Possession of weapons inside
- eneujinem lezibem pnibulzni , eneulingm prizu no prizzezzon •

allowed on trails. ZON are are NOT

.suoitelup9ted of topical are subject to pet disability. Emotional support, therapy, a specific task to assist a person with a can go. A service dog is trained to perform dogs are allowed anywhere that visitors Properly dispose of pet waste. Service areas. Pets must be leashed at all times. campgrounds, and in parking valking and biking paths, in most Pets are only permitted on paved

ergency Services 🕂

Call or Text 911 In an Emergency:

709/372-4637 **Yosemite Medical Clinic**

209/372-0200 (press 1, then 1) Road Conditions

Call 209/372-1060 for 24-hour **9 Solution**

Lost & Found

roadside assistance.

report a lost item. desk, or visit go.nps.gov/lost to information center or hotel front Check at the nearest open

200/372-0200 General Park Information

بلغ Accessibility

etimesoYssecoAlvog.sqn.op Yosemite Accessibility Guide at opportunities, download a services, exhibits, and recreational For a complete list of accessible





and watch for animals crossing the road. Follow posted speed limits, drive carefully, You are driving in wildlife habitat.

mark places where bears have been hit. "Red Bear, Dead Bear" signs on park roads





information when you're offline. calendar, and find your next park. Download Yosemite ahead of time to access park Search for trails and other things to do, navigate with the park map, view the event

Download from your device's app store: search "National Park Service."



esov/vog.sqn.www



Yosemite National Park

May 7 – June 10, 2025

⑦ Yosemite Essentials



Visiting Yosemite in Spring

Some areas of the park are still snowy.

Even when hiking conditions are great in Yosemite Valley, higher-elevation areas of the park may still be covered in snow. Winter trail closures may still be in effect. Check the Seasonal Closures information below for more information.

Expect seasonal road closures.

Tioga Road and Glacier Point Road close to vehicles each winter and usually open by late spring. During road closures, some popular destinations and trailheads are not reachable. Check the Seasonal Closures information below for more information.

Rivers, streams, and waterfalls are beautiful but deadly.

Waterfalls and other moving water are at peak flow during spring snowmelt. Avoid severe injury or drowning: stay out of closed areas and use extra caution around flowing water. Rocks at the base of waterfalls and along rivers can be extremely slippery. Flowing water is icy cold, and currents are much stronger than they appear. Do not enter the water, and watch children carefully.

Expect Yosemite Valley to be busy.

Arrive early to avoid long lines at entrances and to find parking more easily. Park in one of three main Valley parking areas (Curry Village, Yosemite Village, or Yosemite Falls) and walk, bike, or use free shuttles to reach trailheads and other Valley destinations. Turn to page 6 for more.

Seasonal Closures

Seasonal opening dates are different each year, depending on conditions and staffing.

Visitor Services

• Information Centers The Welcome Center in Yosemite Valley is open 9 am – 5 pm daily. Other locations in Big Oak Flat, Wawona, and

Roads

Call 209/372-0200 (press 1, then 1) to hear current road information.

• Glacier Point Road | Usually opens: May, if conditions allow

• Vernal & Nevada Falls

A section of the John Muir Trail between Clark Point and the Panorama Trail junction (the "Ice Cut") is closed in winter and early spring. Usually opens:



Keep Bears Wild Store Food Properly

To a bear, "food" includes trash, toiletries, and anything else with a scent. All must be properly stored.

During the Day

While hiking or picnicking, always keep your food within arm's reach. When away from your vehicle, lock it and keep all windows closed, with food, drinks, and coolers hidden from sight. Never leave food in a truck bed or strapped to the outside of a vehicle.

C At Night

Bears can easily break into vehicles. Food, trash, and other scented items may **NOT** be stored inside vehicles overnight. These items must be kept inside a food locker or in a hotel room or hard-sided cabin with doors and windows closed. Food may also be stored inside a completely hard-sided RV with all windows and doors closed.

If you see a bear in the park, email yose_bear_mgmt@nps.gov or call the Save-a-Bear hotline at 209/372-0322. To learn more about food storage and bears, visit KeepBearsWild.org.



Tuolumne Meadows open in spring; check the information on page 3.

 Visitor services are very limited outside of Yosemite Valley. Turn to pages 4 & 5 for information about dining, shopping, and other services.

Visit go.nps.gov/conditions or scan the QR code for updated information on seasonal closures.



Closed to vehicles. No pedestrian or bicycle access during snow plowing.

• Tioga Road | Usually opens: late May or June, if conditions allow. Closed to vehicles. No pedestrian or bicycle access in during snow plowing. No access to or from the east side of Yosemite when Tioga

Trails

Road is closed.

• Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point The upper section (starting below Union Point) closes in winter due to very hazardous conditions. Usually opens: late May, if conditions allow.

May, if conditions allow. When closed, use the Mist Trail to reach Nevada Fall and points beyond. Map on page 11.

• Half Dome Cables are expected to be in place May 23, if conditions allow. A permit is required: go.nps.gov/ **HDpermits**

Other trails in Yosemite remain open year-round but may be inaccessible during seasonal road closures—or hazardous to travel due to snow and ice. Ask a park ranger about trail conditions before you go. Updates can also be found at go.nps.gov/ wildconditions.

It is illegal to approach or feed any wild animal.

Wildlife can cause injuries and transmit diseases. Human food is unhealthy for wild animals. Animals used to being fed can become dangerous and be killed as a result.

** Park Map



YOSEMITE VALLEY



Yosemite Valley is famous for its waterfalls, towering granite walls, and iconic features like El Capitan and Half Dome.

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

Park at Curry Village, Yosemite Village, or **Yosemite Falls** and walk, bike, or ride a free shuttle to your destination (turn to page 6.)

? INFORMATION & EXHIBITS

Use Yosemite Village Parking or shuttle stops 1/2/4/5.

Welcome Center 9 am – 5 pm daily. Maps, information, junior ranger booklets, lost &

Exploration Center & Theater 9 am - 5 pm daily. Exhibits, park film, bookstore.

Yosemite Museum 10 am – 4 pm daily (closed for lunch.) Indoor/outdoor exhibits, cultural demonstrations, gifts.

VISITOR SERVICES

Dining, shopping, & recreation (turn to page 4.)

PLACES TO VISIT

Turn to pages 10 & 11 for a map of the Valley and information about hiking.

Tunnel View Visit by car; take in an iconic view of

Bridalveil Fall Visit by car; take a short stroll to the base of the waterfall.

El Capitan Meadow Shuttle stop 9; enjoy views of El Capitan and watch rock climbers in action.

Cook's Meadow & Lower Yosemite Fall

Shuttle stop 6. Scenic strolls through the heart of the Valley; see Yosemite Falls, Half Dome, the Merced River, and more.

Mirror Lake Shuttle stop 17. Hike or bike to a scenic lake at the base of Half Dome.

GLACIER POINT

Glacier Point Road is closed from approx.

November to May. Take in stunning views of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the high Sierra from 3,000 feet above the Valley floor! Explore trails and scenic viewpoints along the Valley's southern rim, like Taft Point and Sentinel Dome.

GETTING HERE

From Yosemite Valley, drive south on Wawona Road for 9 mi/14 km. Turn left onto Glacier Point Road and continue for 16 mi/26 km to Glacier Point.

VISITOR SERVICES

Gift shop opens soon after Glacier Point Rd opens.

WAWONA & **MARIPOSA GROVE**



Explore giant sequoias, meadows, and the South Fork Merced River near Yosemite's South Entrance.

GETTING HERE

From Yosemite Valley, drive south on the Wawona Road for 30 mi (48 km), or about one hour.

⑦ INFORMATION & EXHIBITS

Wawona Visitor Center Opening in late May; check local listings for hours.

Yosemite History Center open daily

Gas available 24 hours. Other services very limited: turn to page 5.

PLACES TO VISIT

Yosemite History Center Explore the early days of tourism in Yosemite. Outdoor exhibits open daily.

Wawona Meadow Loop Starting across from the Wawona Hotel, enjoy a mostly-flat, dog-friendly 3.5-mile loop around the scenic meadow. Look for wildflowers in spring!

Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias

Visit Yosemite's largest sequoia grove. Shuttle service tentatively begins in late May. When shuttles aren't running, the grove can only be reached on foot. From the parking area, hike 2 mi/3 km one-way, with 500 ft/150 m of elevation gain, up the road or the Washburn Trail to reach the front of the grove.

TIOGA ROAD & TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

Tioga Road is closed from approximately **November to May or June.** The trip across Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. Tuolumne Meadows is the jumping-off-place for many hikes. Trails may still be wet, muddy, or snow-covered early in the season.

GETTING HERE

From Yosemite Valley, drive 16 mi/26 km north on Big Oak Flat Rd to Crane Flat. Turn right onto Tioga Rd after the gas station.

⑦ INFORMATION & EXHIBITS

Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center & Bookstore Opens for the season when Tioga Road is open. Check for posted hours.

VISITOR SERVICES

Little or no cell service. No gas. Other services may not be available yet; pick up snacks and supplies before making the long drive.

CRANE FLAT



Hike to two quiet sequoia groves near the Big Oak Flat Entrance. Trails may be snowy in early spring

GETTING HERE

Located 16 mi/26 km, or 30 minutes from Yosemite Valley, on Big Oak Flat Road.

③ INFORMATION & EXHIBITS

Big Oak Flat Information Station Opening in late May; check local listings for hours.

VISITOR SERVICES

Gas available 24 hours.

PLACES TO VISIT

Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias

The trailhead and limited parking are located on Tioga Road just north of the intersection at Crane Flat. Hike 1 mi/1.6 km down to the grove and enjoy a 0.5-mi/0.8-km loop around the nature trail at the bottom. Return the same way (500 ft/150 m of elevation gain.)

Merced Grove of Giant Sequoias Yosemite's smallest and quietest sequoia grove. The trailhead and very limited parking are located on Big Oak Flat Road, 3.5 mi/5.6 km west of the intersection at Crane Flat. Hike 1.5 mi/2.4 km down to the grove (elevation gain of 520 ft/160 m on return.)

НЕТСН НЕТСНУ



Walk across the O'Shaughnessy Dam, hike along the reservoir, or access Yosemite's Wilderness. Pick up a free map brochure at the entrance station for information about trails. Open sunrise to sunset only.

GETTING HERE

Located 38 mi (61 km) or 1.5 hours from Yosemite Valley. Take Big Oak Flat Road to the Big Oak Flat Entrance. Just after exiting the park, turn right on Evergreen Road. Follow signs to Hetch Hetchy entrance. Vehicles and trailers over 25 ft long and 8 ft wide are not permitted on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Rd.

VISITOR SERVICES

***** Visitor Services



Seasonal operating dates and hours are subject to change. Visit TravelYosemite.com for restaurant menus and more.

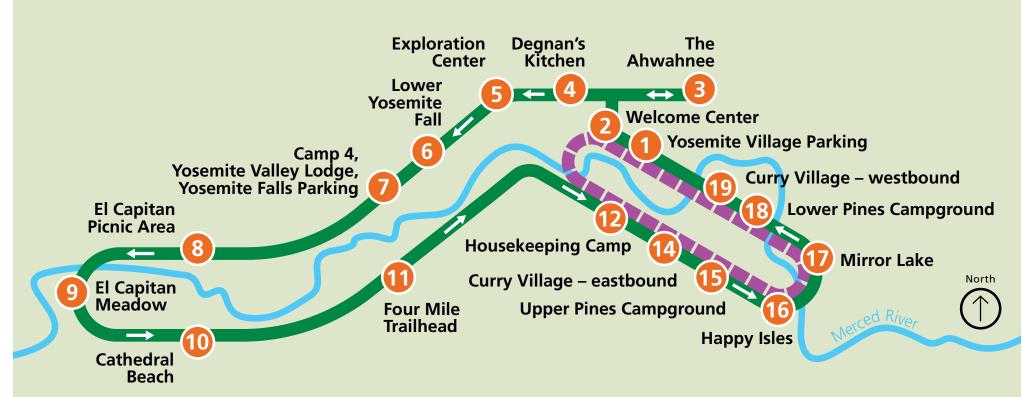
Sleeping overnight in a parking lot or on the side of the road is **NOT** permitted. Sleeping inside a vehicle is only allowed at a registered campsite.

For information about backpacking and wilderness permits, turn to page 10.

LODGING Lodging inside the park is operated by Yosemite Hospitality. Reservations may be made up to one year in advance and are strongly recommended. Book a stay online at TravelYosemite.com or by calling

Transportation

Yosemite Valley Shuttle System



Yosemite Valley shuttles are FREE and operate from 7 am to 10 pm daily. No ticket required.

Valleywide Shuttle (green)

Serves ALL stops. Runs approx. every 22 – 32 min. Round-trip time of 1.5 hours.

Yosemite Valley Shuttle Stops

STOP SHUTTLES	DESTINATION	AT THIS STOP	STOP	SHUTTLES	DESTINATION	AT THIS STOP
	Yosemite Village Parking ALL Shuttles.	Parking, welcome center, Village Store.	9		El Capitan Meadow Valleywide Shuttle ONLY.	Scenic area.
	Welcome Center	Welcome center, Village Store, Exploration Center,	10		Cathedral Beach Valleywide Shuttle ONLY.	Picnic area.
	ALL Shuttles.	museum, post office, shopping, dining.	11		Four Mile Trailhead Valleywide Shuttle ONLY.	Trailhead.
3 🖨	The Ahwahnee Valleywide Shuttle ONLY.	Lodging, fine dining.	12		Housekeeping Camp & Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center	Lodging (seasonal), laundry (seasonal), exhibits & programs
4 🗐	Degnan's Kitchen Valleywide Shuttle ONLY.	Welcome center, Village Store, Exploration Center, museum, post office, shopping,	14		ALL Shuttles. Curry Village—eastbound ALL Shuttles.	(seasonal). Parking, lodging, dining, gift & grocery.
		dining. Exploration Center,	15		Upper Pines Campground ALL Shuttles.	Pines campgrounds.
5	Exploration Center Valleywide Shuttle ONLY.	museum, post office, gallery, wilderness center	16		Happy Isles ALL Shuttles.	Trailhead, Art & Nature Center (seasonal.)
6 🗐	Lower Yosemite Fall Valleywide Shuttle ONLY.	Trailheads, picnic area.	17		Mirror Lake ALL Shuttles.	Trailhead.
7 🖨	Camp 4, Yosemite Valley Lodge, Yosemite Falls Parking Valleywide Shuttle ONLY.	Parking, lodging, camping, trailheads, casual dining.	18		Lower Pines Campground ALL Shuttles.	Pines campgrounds.
8 🗐	El Capitan Picnic Area Valleywide Shuttle ONLY.	Picnic area.	19		Curry Village—westbound ALL Shuttles.	Parking, lodging, dining, gift & grocery.

East Valley Shuttle (purple)

Serves east Valley destinations ONLY. Runs approx. every 18 – 22 min. Round-trip time of 50 min.

Electric Vehicle Charging

EV charging is available at no cost, courtesy of Yosemite Hospitality.



Pets are NOT allowed on shuttles.

Service dogs are legally permitted anywhere that visitors can go. Emotional support, therapy, and companion animals are subject to all pet regulations.

Parking

In Yosemite Valley, use one of three main parking areas: Curry Village (1), Yosemite Village 1, or Yosemite Falls 7. Parking can completely fill by late morning on weekends and holidays. Once you find a parking space, keep it. Walk, bike, or ride a shuttle to trailheads and other destinations.

Park only in designated parking spaces or in a paved turnout, pulled completely off the road. Vehicles parked on vegetation or blocking traffic are subject to citation and may be towed.

Roadside Assistance

24-hour roadside assistance: call 209/372-1060

Yosemite Valley Locations

• The Ahwahnee (6) valet-only during construction • Curry Village (20) • Welcome Center (4) • Yosemite Falls Parking (10) • Yosemite Valley Lodge (8)

El Portal Locations

• Market & Gas Station (2)

Wawona Locations • Wawona Store (24)

Tuolumne Meadows Locations

when Tioga Rd is open • Tuolumne Meadows Store (4)

Gas Stations

There are NO gas stations in Yosemite Valley.

- El Portal Gas Station outside the park gate
- 15 mi from Yosemite Valley (downhill) Crane Flat Gas Station
- 16.5 mi from Yosemite Valley (uphill)
- Wawona Gas Station
- 28 mi from Yosemite Valley (uphill)

Gas & diesel are available 24 hours with pay-atthe-pump (card only.) Staffed hours on page 5.

So Bicycling in Yosemite

Where to Ride Enjoy several miles of scenic, paved bike paths through Yosemite Valley. Bicycles are also allowed on park roads (cyclists must obey traffic laws.) Bicycles are NOT allowed on hiking trails. The speed limit on bike paths is 15 mph. Helmets are required by law for children under 18.

Rentals Bicycles are available for full-day and half-day rentals (turn to pages 4 & 5 for hours and locations.) Standard adult & children's bikes are first-come, first-served. Bikes with trailers are available at Yosemite Valley Lodge and Curry Village only. ADA bicycles are available by reservation: call 209/372-1208.

E-bikes with two or three wheels, fully operable pedals, and electric motors less than 750 watts (1 horsepower) are allowed everywhere bicycles are allowed

Bus & Shuttle Service

• Travel to Yosemite via YARTS (\$)

The Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) is a public transit system that provides service into Yosemite. Enjoy yearround service from Merced and seasonal service from Sonora, Mammoth Lakes, and Fresno. Buses are air-conditioned, bike-friendly, wheelchair-accessible, and equipped for rider comfort. Save gas, save time, save money, by taking YARTS! For bus schedules and tickets, visit www.YARTS.com or call 877/989-2787.

• Yosemite Valley Shuttles (free)

Daily, year-round service. Refer to map at left.

• Mariposa Grove Shuttle (free)

Shuttle service from the parking area to the grove tentatively begins in late May. Shuttles run from 9 am to 7 pm (last bus leaves the grove at 8 pm.) When shuttles are not running, the grove can only be reached on foot (turn to page 3.)

• Tuolumne Meadows Hikers Bus (\$)

Summer only. Visit TravelYosemite.com.

• Glacier Point Tour Bus (\$)

Begins in May, if conditions allow. Visit TravelYosemite.com for details and tickets.

H Programs

Program Schedule

Visit go.nps.gov/YosemiteCalendar or the NPS app to view the online calendar. Program offerings are subject to change, depending on conditions and staff availability. Check listings at the welcome center and other information centers daily for additional programs.

YOSEMITE VALLEY: PROGRAMS FOR KIDS & THEIR FAMILIES

DAY & TIME	PROGRAM		ноѕт	FEE?	REGISTER?
10 am – 2 pm M – F	<u>т</u> .	Kids' Open Art Studio Free self-guided kid's art activities at the Happy Isles Art and Nature Center (shuttle stop 16.) Drop in anytime during open studio hours; no registration required.	YC	free	no; drop-in only
10:30 am (1.5 hrs) M & W		Birding and Wildlife Walk Look for birds, wildlife, and their signs while exploring Yosemite's diverse species and habitats. Families welcome! Register in advance at yosemite.org/experience/naturalist-walks.	YC	\$	yes; register at Yosemite.org
2 pm (15 min) Daily*	*	Family Ranger Talk Topics vary. Meet in front of the Yosemite Valley Welcome Center (shuttle stops 1/2/4.) *Subject to change, based on staffing.	NPS	free	no; drop-in only

YOSEMITE VALLEY: WALKS, TALKS, & TOURS

DAY & TIME	PROGRAM	HOST	FEE?	REGISTER?
7:30 am (2 hrs) M & W	Birding in Yosemite Valley Listen, watch, and learn about Yosemite's birdlife while enjoying an easy-paced walk from Yosemite Village. Register in advance at yosemite.org/experience/naturalist-walks.	YC	\$	yes; register at Yosemite.org
9 am - 11 am Su	Climber Coffee Meet with NPS climbing rangers to discuss climbing management issues, preventative search and rescue activities, and other current events surrounding the climbing community. Meet at Camp 4, near the registration booth.	NPS	free	no; drop-in only
12:30 pm – 4:30 pm Daily	Ask-a-Climber View climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. West side of El Capitan bridge, near shuttle stop 9. Stop by anytime between 12:30 and 4:30 pm.	NPS	free	no; drop-in only
2 pm (1 hr) Daily	Historic Ahwahnee Hotel Tour Learn about the history behind Yosemite's famous luxury hotel on this complimentary one-hour tour. Meet on the hotel's back lawn. (Parking at The Ahwahnee is valet-only during construction. Use shuttle stop 3.)	ΥH	free	no; drop-in only

YOSEMITE VALLEY: EVENING PROGRAMS

DAY & TIME		PROGRAM	HOST	FEE?	REGISTER?
6 pm (1.5 hrs) Daily*		Yosemite Valley Sunset Walk Experience the magic of Yosemite Valley at sunset as naturalists share the park's natural and cultural history on a scenic walk around Cook's Meadow. Register at yosemite.org/experience/naturalist-walks. *Schedule may vary; check the online registration calendar for updates.	YC	\$	yes; register at Yosemite.org
7:30 pm (30 min) F, Sa	بغ	Evening Programs Yosemite naturalists present a variety of topics. Meet at the Curry Village Amphitheater (use shuttle stops 14 & 19.)		free	no; drop-in only
8:30 pm (1.5 hrs) Nightly		Yosemite After Dark Grab a flashlight and join a Yosemite Naturalist for a nature walk at night!		\$	yes; tickets at TravelYosemite.com
9 pm (1.5 hrs) Nightly*		Explore Yosemite's Night Sky Join a naturalist for stargazing as they highlight stars and constellations with a laser pointer and share insights on astronomy and night sky lore. Register in advance at yosemite.org/experience/naturalist-walks. *Schedule may vary; check the online registration calendar for updates.	YC	\$	yes; register at Yosemite.org

YOSEMITE VALLEY: ART CLASSES WITH YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY

Connect with your park through art! Join us for a class or creative activity that will help you see the natural world in a new way. Multi-day art retreats are also available! Visit Yosemite.org/art to browse the full calendar of classes.

DAY & TIME		PROGRAM	
9 am (4 hrs) M – F	بغ	Art Class Meet at the Happy Isles Art and Nature Center for art classes. Browse the online calendar for schedule of guest instructors & class topics. Register in advance at yosemite.org/art	\$
2 pm (2 hrs) F	فعر	Paint and Sip Learn the basics of watercolor and create an iconic Yosemite landscape step-by-step. Painting supplies (plus wine and cheese) are included. Hosted in partnership with Yosemite Hospitality at the Mountain Room Lounge. Register in advance at Yosemite.org/art	\$

YOSEMITE VALLEY: PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES WITH THE ANSEL ADAMS GALLERY

Classes will teach you how to use your camera as well as incorporating Ansel Adams' photographic techniques. Registration is required. Private photography guiding is also available. Visit AnselAdams.com/photography-education or call 209/372-4413.

DAY & TIME	PROGRAM	FEE?
9 am (1.5 hrs) Tu & Th	The Ansel Adams Gallery Photography Walk Join a staff photographer for a brief field lecture in Yosemite Valley. Limited space; registration required.	free
9 am (3 hrs) W	In the Field: Creative Smartphone Photography Join a staff photographer to learn how to make better photographs with the camera you always carry.	\$
1 pm (3 hrs) Sa	In the Field: Creative Smartphone Photography Join a staff photographer to learn how to make better photographs with the camera you always carry.	\$
1 pm (4 hrs) M & Th	In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Join a staff photographer for a field class around Yosemite Valley.	\$
1 pm (4 hrs) Tu	Ansel Adams's Legacy and Your Digital Camera Join a staff photographer for a field class to learn how to make better photographs with your DSLR camera.	\$

DAY & TIME

8:30 am (4 hr M, W, Sa 8:30 am (8 h Tu. F

8:30 am (8 h Su, Th 1:30 pm (4 hrs) M, W, Sa

DAY & T

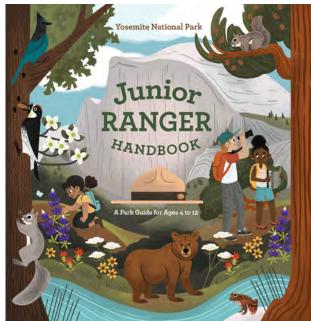
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Sat, May 7:30 pm (1.

Fri, May 7:30 pm (1.

Sat, May 7:30 pm (1

PROGRAMS IN TUOLUMNE MEADOWS Tioga Road and services in Tuolumne Meadows typically open in late May or June. When open for the season, stop by the visitor center in Tuolumne Meadows for program listings and other local information.



Programs designed especial children and their families. Programs designed especially for Programs accessible to visitors with wheelchairs NPS (National Park Service) YC (Yosemite Conservancy)

YH (Yosemite Hospitality) TAAG (The Ansel Adams Gallery)

YOSEMITE VALLEY: GUIDED HIKES WITH YOSEMITE MOUNTAINEERING SCHOOL Enjoy a group hike led by an expert Yosemite guide. All hikers must be 12 or older. Registration required; find more information and register at

TravelYosemite.com/things-to-do/hiking

PROGRAM

rs)	Guided Discovery Hike: Vernal Fall Footbridge Difficulty: strenuous.
rs)	Guided Adventure Hike: Nevada Fall Difficulty: strenuous.
rs)	Guided Adventure Hike: El Capitan Loop Difficulty: moderate.

Guided Discovery Hike: Mirror Lake Difficulty: moderate.

EVENING PROGRAMS AT THE YOSEMITE CONSERVATION HERITAGE CENTER

Special presentations by guest speakers, hosted by the Sierra Club. Programs are free; no registration required. Visit SierraClub.org/yosemite-conservation-heritage-center to learn more. The Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center is located in Yosemite Valley, near Housekeeping Camp and shuttle stop 12.

ΓΙΜΕ	PROGRAM
y 9	The Wonders of Dark Skies—Astrophotography, Astronomy, Light Pollution and Prevention
.5 hrs)	Presented by Jeremy Evans, Nature Photographer/Filmmaker/Sierra Club Outings Leader.
y 10	Yosemite Landmarks: Origins and History of Yosemite's Places and Names
.5 hrs)	Presented by Jeremy Evans, Nature Photographer/Filmmaker/Sierra Club Outings Leader.
/ 30	John Muir's Grand Yosemite
.5 hrs)	Presented by Mike Wurtz, Curator of Muir's archival collections at the University of the Pacific.
y 31	Becoming Treewise and Sequoical: John Muir and the Giant Sequoia
.5 hrs)	Presented by Mike Wurtz, Curator of Muir's archival collections at the University of the Pacific.

PROGRAMS AT CRANE FLAT

Check local listings (Big Oak Flat Information Station) for program schedule.

PROGRAMS IN WAWONA & THE MARIPOSA GROVE

Check local listings (Wawona Visitor Center) for program schedule.

Become a Yosemite Junior Ranger!

Pick up a free Junior Ranger Handbook at any open information center. Complete the activities while you explore the park, then return your book



Park Partners



Yosemite Conservancy is a nonprofit dedicated to preserving Yosemite National Park's resources and providing enriching visitor experiences in the park.

Contact Yosemite.org Providing For Yosemite's Future

Locations Turn to page 4 for hours

- Yosemite Exploration Center & Theater (Yosemite Village)
- Happy Isles Art & Nature Center (shuttle stop 16) • Retail locations in Yosemite Valley, Wawona, Mariposa Grove, Big Oak Flat, & Tuolumne Meadows

Outdoor Adventures

Check the calendar for guided hikes and backpacking trips in Yosemite: Yosemite.org/experience/outdoor-adventures. Advance registration is required for all Outdoor Adventures. Programs come with camping in Yosemite and entry into the park!

Upcoming Outdoor Adventures:

- May 22 | Day Hike: Exploring Yosemite's Waterfall Wonders
- May 31 June 1 | Yosemite Field School: Cliff Ecology, Life on Vertical Terrain • June 13 – 14 | Yosemite Field School: Bird-Banding

Custom Adventures Private guided excursions, available year-round: Yosemite.org/custom-adventures

Art Classes

Join us for weekday workshops, kids' classes, overnight art retreats, and more. Check the online calendar for upcoming classes at Yosemite.org/art

Upcoming Art Classes:

- May 5 9 | Watercolor with Jo-Neal Graves
- May 12 16 | Watercolor with Steve Curl
- May 19 23 | Watercolor with Grace Fong • May 26 – 30 | Painting & Poetry with Joa & Kelly
- June 9 13 | Painting & Printmaking with Sue Fierston



Yosemite Hospitality operates lodging, dining, shopping, and other services throughout the park. A variety of tours, naturalist programs, guided hikes, and

recreation rentals may be available. Book online, over the phone, or in person at the Yosemite Valley Lodge front desk.

Contact TravelYosemite.com or 888/413-8869

Locations *Turn to page 4 for hours*

• Tour desks and bike rentals at Yosemite Village, Curry Village, & Yosemite Valley Lodge (spring through fall, as conditions allow)

- Yosemite Mountaineering School at Curry Village: guided hikes & rock climbing (closed in winter)
- Badger Pass Ski Area (winter only)



Contact AnselAdams.com/photographyeducation or 209/372-4413

Location The Ansel Adams Gallery is located in Yosemite Village, open from 9 am to 5 pm daily. Experience a variety of fine arts, handcrafts, and a collection of Ansel Adams' original photographs. The gallery also offers half-day or full-day photography classes and private guided tours led by a resident staff photographer.

Current & Upcoming Exhibitions:

- Apr 20 May 31 | Near and Far: A Visual Journey with Dan Burkholder • Jun 1 – Jul 12 | Symphony of Seasons: Photographs by Charlotte Gibb
- Artists's Reception: June 7 from 2 4 pm (free event open to the public!)



Contact SierraClub.org/yosemite-conservation-heritagecenter or 209/372-4542

Location Sierra Club volunteers welcome visitors to explore the exhibits, the natural history library, and the children's corner. The Sierra Club's Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center is open Wed to Sun,10 am to 4 pm.

NatureBridge.

Bring your school to NatureBridge for multi-day, immersive environmental science programs that ignite curiosity and

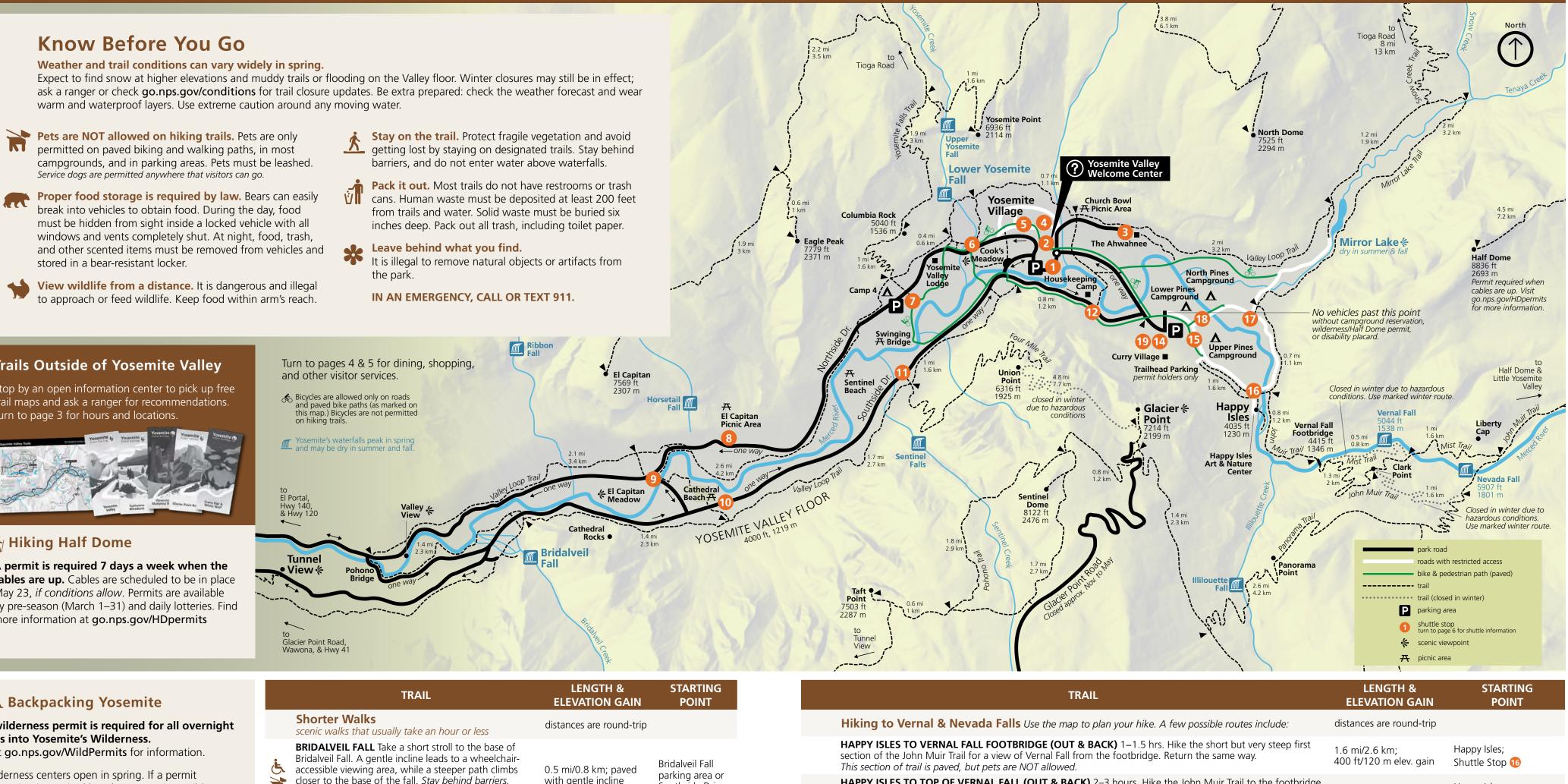
foster deep connections with nature. As the largest education partner of the National Park Service since 1971, NatureBridge provides transformative, hands-on learning experiences in the country's most iconic national parks. Our nonprofit organization is dedicated to inspiring the next generation of environmental stewards. Discover more and plan your school's adventure at naturebridge.org.

***** Yosemite Valley Trails

Know Before You Go

Weather and trail conditions can vary widely in spring.

Expect to find snow at higher elevations and muddy trails or flooding on the Valley floor. Winter closures may still be in effect; ask a ranger or check **go.nps.gov/conditions** for trail closure updates. Be extra prepared: check the weather forecast and wear warm and waterproof layers. Use extreme caution around any moving water.



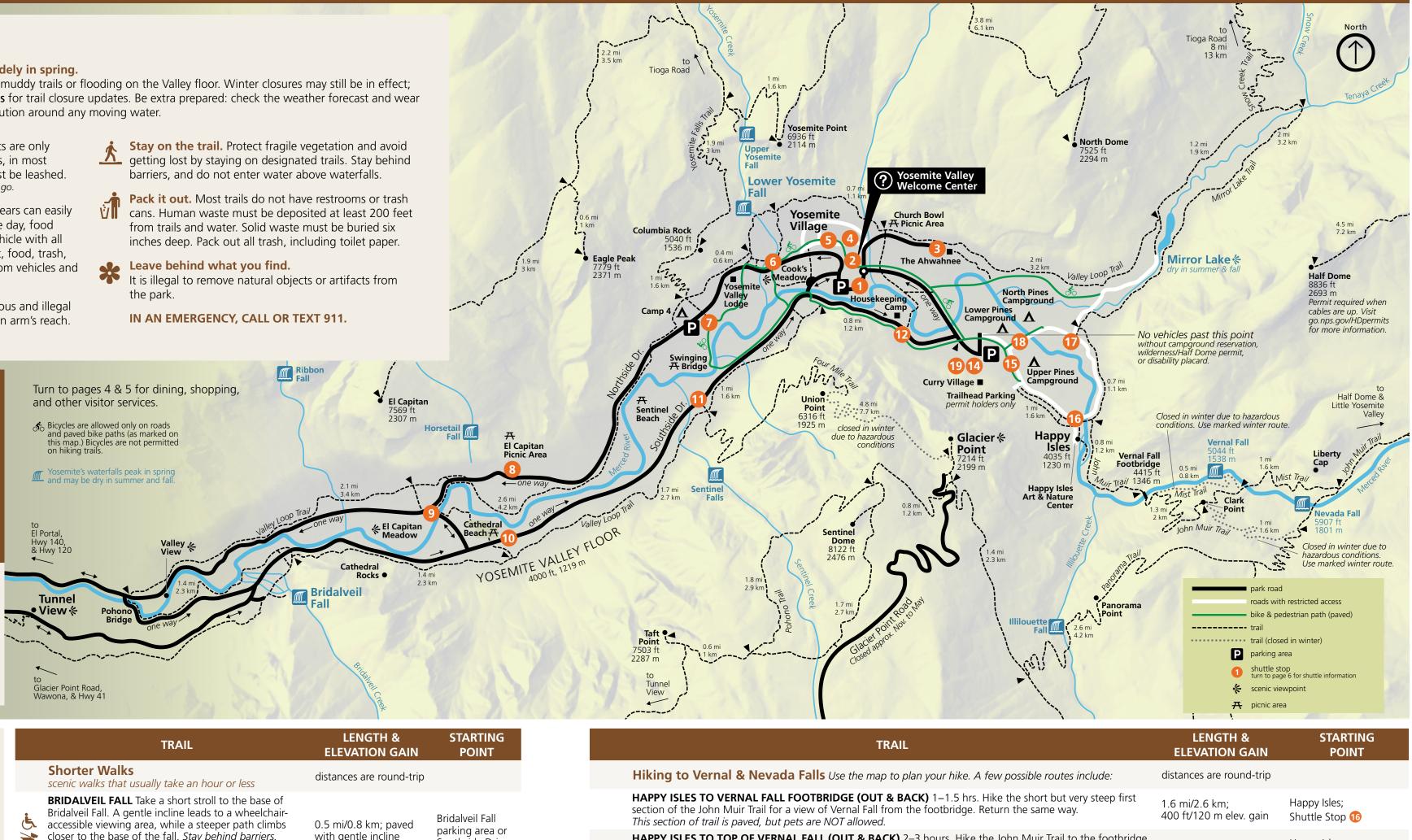
Trails Outside of Yosemite Valley

Stop by an open information center to pick up free trail maps and ask a ranger for recommendations. Turn to page 3 for hours and locations.



⅓ Hiking Half Dome

A permit is required 7 days a week when the **cables are up.** Cables are scheduled to be in place May 23, *if conditions allow*. Permits are available by pre-season (March 1–31) and daily lotteries. Find more information at go.nps.gov/HDpermits



A Backpacking Yosemite

A wilderness permit is required for all overnight trips into Yosemite's Wilderness. Visit **go.nps.gov/WildPermits** for information.

Wilderness centers open in spring. If a permit reservation is required but the appropriate wilderness center is not open, find instructions for permit pickup at go.nps.gov/wildconditions.

Come prepared with your own approved bear canister—or rent one at an open wilderness center.

Wilderness Permit Pickup Locations

• Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center: Open 8 am - 5 pm • Wawona Visitor Center: Open for permit pickup starting May 23, 8 am – 5 pm.

• Big Oak Flat Information Station: Open for permit pickup starting May 23, 8 am – 5 pm.

• Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center: Opens when Tioga Road is open for the season.

• Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station: Permit pickup available 8 am – 5 pm, when the entrance kiosk is staffed. Road is open sunrise to sunset only.

• Big Wall Climbing Permits: Self-registration permits for overnight climbs are available at El Capitan Crossover (shuttl stop 9.)

		TRAIL	LENGTH & ELEVATION GAIN	STARTING POINT
		Shorter Walks scenic walks that usually take an hour or less	distances are round-trip	
	<u>نې</u>	BRIDALVEIL FALL Take a short stroll to the base of Bridalveil Fall. A gentle incline leads to a wheelchair- accessible viewing area, while a steeper path climbs closer to the base of the fall. <i>Stay behind barriers.</i> <i>Rocks at the base of the waterfall are very slick and</i> <i>dangerous.</i>	0.5 mi/0.8 km; paved with gentle incline	Bridalveil Fall parking area or Southside Drive
	j. ₩	LOWER YOSEMITE FALL A short but rewarding trail to the base of Yosemite Falls. The east side of the loop is wheelchair-accessible. Expect heavy spray in spring. <i>Stay behind barriers. Rocks at the base of the waterfall</i> <i>are very slick and dangerous.</i>	1 mi/1.6 km; paved with gentle incline	Shuttle Stop 6
n g		COOK'S MEADOW LOOP Take a relaxed stroll and enjoy views of Yosemite Falls, Half Dome, and the Merced River. Look and listen for birds and other wildlife in early morning and around dusk.	1 mi/1.6 km; flat pavement & boardwalk	Shuttle Stop 6
ò	T	MIRROR LAKE (dry in summer & fall) Take a short walk on a paved road to the front of the lake, at the base of Half Dome. Continue on the unpaved hiking trail for a 4.5-mile loop. Pets are allowed only on the paved road. Vehicles with a valid disability placard may drive the paved road to the front of Mirror Lake.	2 mi/3.2 km; 100 ft/30 m elev. gain	Shuttle Stop 🕡
		Choose Your Own Adventure		
tle		YOSEMITE VALLEY LOOP TRAIL Enjoy a scenic loop around the Yosemite Valley floor on this quiet, less- traveled trail. Hike a short section, or spend a day exploring the entire trail. Use the map above to plan your hike. Pets and bicycles are NOT allowed. Sections closest to the river may be muddy or flooded.	Up to 11.5 mi/18.5 km; Mostly flat, some gentle incline	Most shuttle stops; refer to map

HAPPY ISLES TO TOP OF VERNAL FALL (OUT & BACK) 2-3 hours. Hike the John Muir Trail to the footbridge, then continue onto the Mist Trail. Climb a series of very steep steps to the top of Vernal Fall. This section has heavy spray and slippery steps; wear shoes with good traction and expect to be soaked. Return the same way

HAPPY ISLES TO TOP OF VERNAL FALL (LOOP VIA CLARK PT) 2-4 hours. Hike the John Muir Trail to the footbridge, then continue onto the Mist Trail. Climb a series of very steep steps to the top of Vernal Fall. This section has heavy spray and slippery steps; wear shoes with good traction and expect to be soaked. Continue up 1500 ft (450 m) elev. gain Shuttle Stop 🔞 to Clark Point for more great views of Vernal and Nevada Falls, then enjoy a dry descent to the footbridge. HAPPY ISLES TO TOP OF NEVADA FALL (OUT & BACK) 4–5 hours. Hike the John Muir Trail to the

footbridge, then continue onto the Mist Trail. Climb a series of very steep steps to the top of Vernal Fall. Follow the Mist Trail another steep mile to the top of Nevada Fall. Return the same way.

HAPPY ISLES TO TOP OF NEVADA FALL (LOOP VIA CLARK PT) 4–6 hours. Hike the John Muir Trail to the footbridge, then continue onto the Mist Trail. Climb a series of very steep steps to the top of Vernal Fall. Follow the Mist Trail another steep mile to the top of Nevada Fall. Return via the John Muir Trail and Clark Point. The John Muir Trail may be closed between Panorama Trail junction (near Nevada Fall) and Clark Pt (the "Ice Cut".) Ask about the closure before you go; section usually opens in May, if conditions allow.

Even More Challenging Hikes

YOSEMITE FALLS TRAIL 6–8 hrs. A steep, rugged trail with dozens of switchbacks. Hike the first steep mile to Columbia Rock for stunning valley views. Continue to the top of Yosemite Falls; return the same way. FOUR MILE TRAIL TO GLACIER POINT 6-8 hrs. Upper section closed until mid- or late spring. This challenging

trail offers spectacular views of Yosemite Valley. Plan to hike back down from Glacier Point—there is no shuttle to return you to the Valley. Combine with the Panorama Trail for an even longer 12-mile semi-loop.

2.4 mi/3.8 km; Happy Isles; 1000 ft/300 m elev. gain Shuttle Stop 16 3.7 mi/6 km; Happy Isles; Happy Isles; 5 mi/8 km: 2000 ft/600 m elev. gain Shuttle Stop 16 5.8 mi/9.3 km; Happy Isles; 2000 ft/600 m elev. gain Shuttle Stop 16

distances are round-trip

distances are round trip	
7.2 mi/11.6 km; 2,700 ft/820 m elev. gain	Camp 4 & Shuttle Stop 7
9.6 mi/15.4 km; 3,200 ft/975 m elev. gain	Shuttle Stop 🕕

wheelchair-accessible paved path or boardwalk

leashed pets welcome