

Yosemite Guide

December 11, 2013 - February 11, 2014

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park



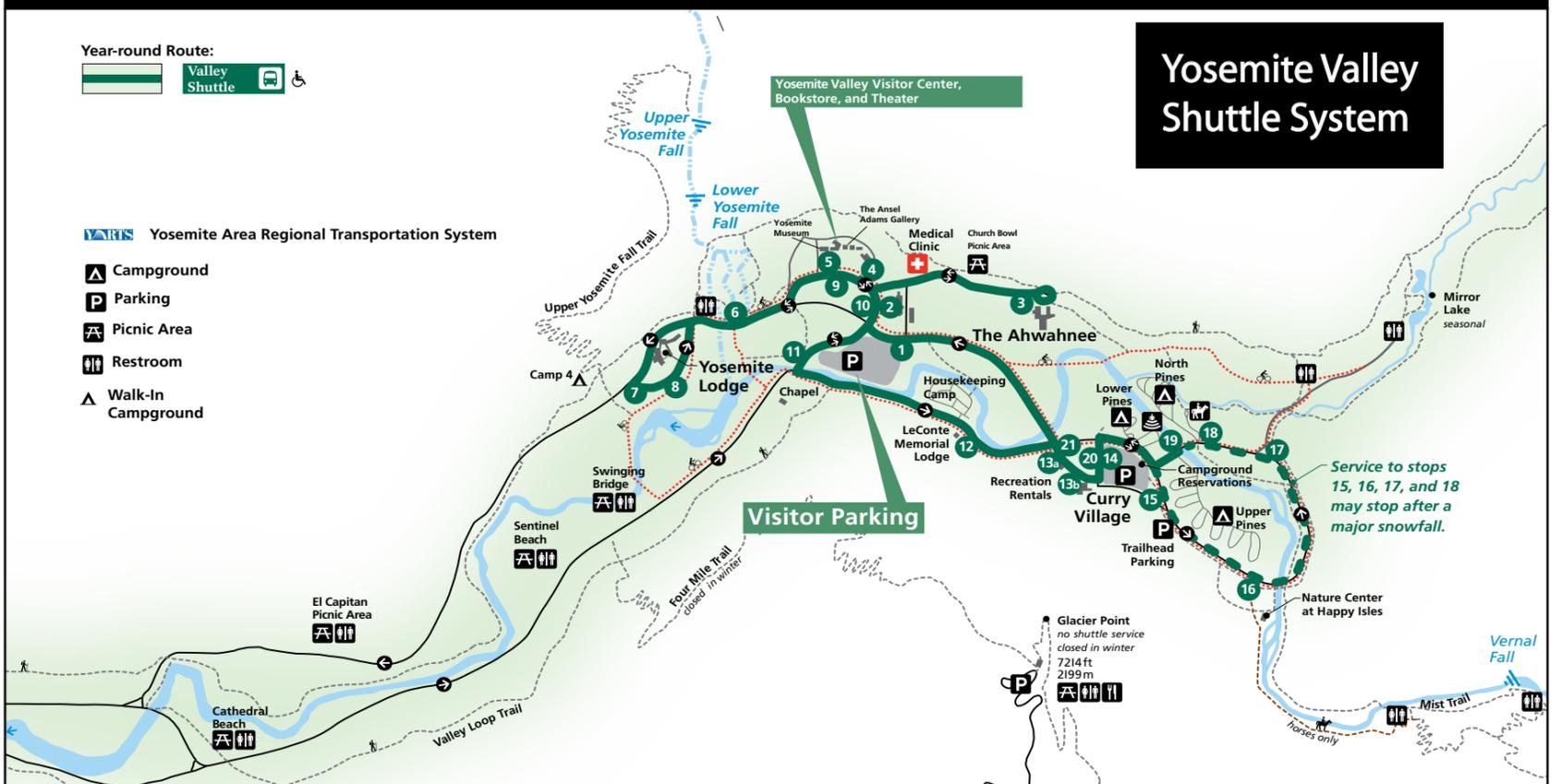
Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Volume 39, Issue 1

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Yosemite Guide December 11, 2013 - February 11, 2014

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



Yosemite Valley Shuttle System

Shuttles run daily every 10-20 minutes depending on the time of day. The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7:00am - 10:00pm and serves stops in numerical order.

Stop #	Location	Stop #	Location	Stop #	Location
1	Visitor Parking	8	Yosemite Lodge	16	Happy Isles
2	Yosemite Village	11	Sentinel Bridge	17	Mirror Lake Trailhead
3	The Ahwahnee	12	LeConte / Housekeeping Camp	18	Stable
4	Degnan's Deli	13a	Recreation Rentals	19	Pines Campgrounds
5	Valley Visitor Center	13b	Curry Village		
6	Lower Yosemite Fall	14	Curry Village Parking		
7	Camp 4	15	Upper Pines Campground		

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Seasonal Highlights

What do you want to do with your special time in Yosemite? The choice is yours. Here are some popular activities for a day in Yosemite National Park.

Take the Bus!

Free shuttles, including some environmentally-friendly electric/diesel hybrids, are available in Yosemite Valley year-round. Park your car and let an expert drive you to some of the most scenic and historic points in the park. Not only will you be doing your part to cut down on traffic congestion and vehicle pollutants, you'll also have both hands free for that perfect shot of Half Dome.

Enjoy Winter Fun at Badger Pass!

California's original ski resort, Badger Pass Ski Area is a perfect place for visitors of all ages and skill levels to play in the snow. Learn to ski with one of our lessons, get some practice in on 10 runs, or catch some air in one of two terrain parks. You can also set-out on an easy, guided snowshoe hike or embark on a cross-country skiing adventure from the Nordic Center. Badger Pass is open everyday beginning December 13, conditions permitting. Downhill ski lifts operate from 9am to 4pm. Call 209/372-1000 for current snow conditions.

Equipment rentals, the Cross Country Ski Center, and lift tickets are available from 8:30am to 4pm. Tubing is open daily from 11:30am - 1:30pm and 2pm - 4pm (Get information on the Badger Pass Shuttle on page 4.)

Visit the Ice Rink at Curry Village

Take the shuttle to Curry Village for a one-of-a-kind ice skating experience with a spectacular view of Half Dome. Four sessions are available on weekends and holidays: 8:30am to 11:00am, noon to 2:30 pm, 3:30pm to 6:00pm, and 7pm to 9:30pm. Monday through Friday, two sessions are available from 3:30pm to 6:00pm and 7:00pm to 9:30pm.

Explore a Sequoia Grove

Meet the most massive living trees on earth as you explore a sequoia grove. Yosemite is home to three groves—each within walking distance of a road. Skis or snowshoes are recommended if the trail is snow covered. (See map on page 2 and info on page 7.)

Visit the Yosemite Museum

Closed for construction January 6 through February 1, 2014.

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



Whether you're looking for a cold-weather adventure, a warm fireplace, or a little of both, Yosemite is a magical place in winter!

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 park wonders on a ranger-guided walk. Programs are offered daily in Yosemite Valley focusing on bears, geology, trees, and other topics. (See page 5 for times and places.)

Enjoy Winter on Snowshoes

Join a naturalist for a guided hike or rent or bring your own equipment for a fantastic winter experience. Be sure to check weather and snow conditions before you go. Snowshoe rentals are available at Badger Pass Ski Area. The Rental Shop is open from 8:30am to 4pm. For weather conditions, please call 209/372-0200 or check at any visitor center. (See page 5 for guided hike schedule.)

Reserve Ostrander Ski Hut For an Epic Winter Adventure!

Ostrander Ski Hut, managed by Yosemite Conservancy, is accepting

reservations for the 2014 season. The hut operates from early December through March and is located 10 miles from the Badger Pass Ski Area. Trips to Ostrander require advanced snowshoe or cross country skiing experience. Reservations can be booked by calling 209-379-5161. Information, equipment lists and more can be found at www.yosemiteconservancy.org/ostrander.

Tour The Ahwahnee...

Step back to an earlier era of history as you explore the National Historic Landmark that opened in 1927. Notable for its architecture and artful décor, the hotel provides a cozy atmosphere to relax and enjoy a warm drink in. ("Food & Beverage," page 7.)

... or Curl Up in Front of a Fireplace!

The Ahwahnee has three oversized fireplaces that match the proportion of the structure and that have always provided heat during the year's cooler months. Bring a book, a warm drink, or at least a pair of frosty hands for a good warm-up in front of the flames.

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. Snowshoe Mariposa Grove with an expert leading you every step of the way or explore the fascinating natural history of the Sierra Nevada with an experienced naturalist. Looking for a custom Yosemite experience? Contact us to plan a custom adventure for your family or group. Visit www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or 209/379-2317 ext. 10 to find your adventure today. See page 6 for details.

Winter Weather and Driving in Yosemite

The Tioga, Glacier Point, and Mariposa Grove Roads are closed each year from after the first significant snowfall to about late May or early June. Other roads are generally plowed and maintained, but can close or present delays during storm periods. Motorists are advised to always carry chains and check weather and road conditions before travel. Icy and wet roadways can exist throughout the park! To check conditions, call 209/372-0200 for roads inside the park and 800/427-7623 or visit www.dot.ca.gov for highways connecting to Yosemite.

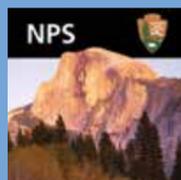
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Want the Guide on your Apple or Android device?

Get the App!

Search **NPS-Yosemite** in app stores to download the official park app. Download for up-to-date listings of programs, services, an interactive map, and more!



iPhone/iPad

Android

All issue illustrations by Tom Whitworth

Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees

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

Vehicle \$20
Valid for 7 days

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

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

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

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

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

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

Reservations

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

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

Regional Info

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

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

Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/446-1333
www.tcvb.com

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

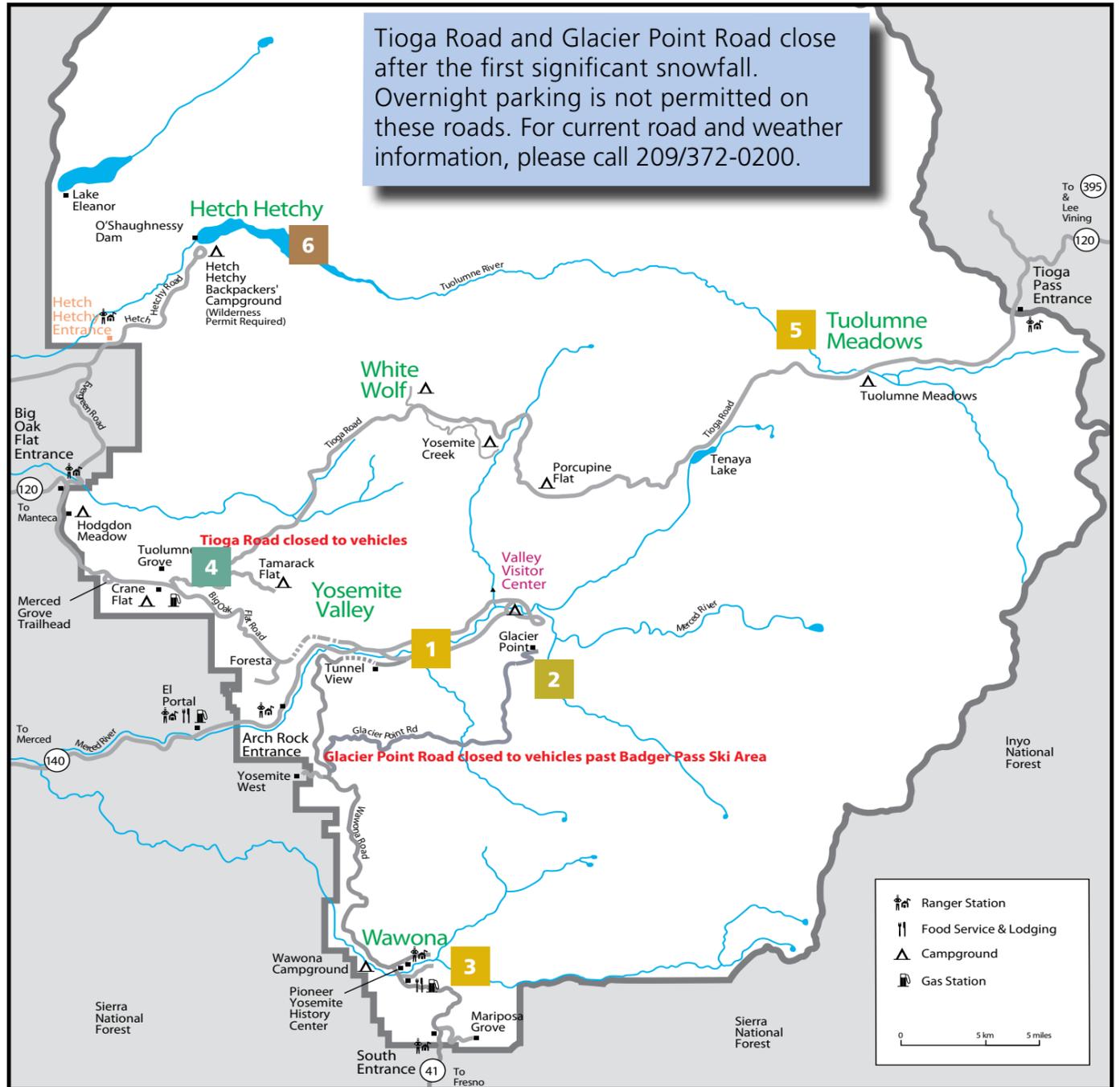
Highway 132/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
209/878-3074

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

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

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

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



Yosemite Valley

1 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 breathless 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

2 Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the Yosemite's high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. **The road stays open as weather permits, although overnight parking along it ends on Oct. 15.** When snow covers the road and conditions permit, a system of cross-country ski tracks is 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, some might say unnerving, view 3,214 feet down to Yosemite Valley.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

3 The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (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. Help reduce congestion by taking the free shuttle from the Wawona Store, available weekends from 9am to 6pm as weather permits. The road to the grove is closed to vehicles after the first big snowstorm, making it a peaceful hike or snowshoe for winter adventurers. See page 7 for Mariposa Grove hiking details. 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

4 Crane Flat is located 16 miles from Yosemite Valley at the junction of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. A number of hikes through pleasant meadows are available—when snow covers the ground these turn into delightful ski and 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

5 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

6 Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. The area's low elevation makes it a good place to hike in autumn and winter. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley via Highway 120 and Evergreen and Hetch Hetchy Roads. Hetch Hetchy Road is open limited hours: 8 am to 7 pm through Oct. 31; then 8 am to 5 pm through March 31. The road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is a 1 hour and 15 minute drive from Yosemite Valley. Trailers, vehicles over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not allowed on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.



The view from Washburn Point. Photo by Ken Watson



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



Tuolumne Meadows deep freeze. Photo by Wendy Malone



Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. NPS photo by Erik Skindrud

Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas in the heart of the park



Yosemite Valley in winter NPS Photo

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.

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: Please park on the paved road shoulder next to El Capitan Meadow. Delicate meadows are easily damaged by trampling, so please stay on footpaths.*

Half Dome, Yosemite's most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook's Meadow, Sentinel

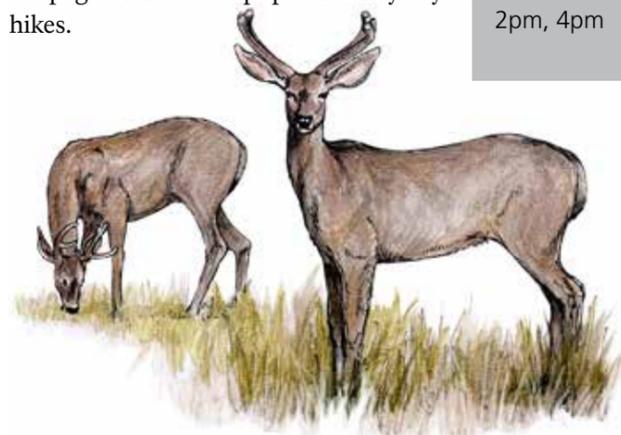
Bridge, Tunnel View, Glacier Point, and Olmsted Point are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome.

Happy Isles is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16. Cross the footbridges onto the Isles or wander through outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite's geologic story.

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

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

To experience the Valley on foot, stop by a visitor center for a trail map and the most current trail conditions, or see page 9 for a list of popular Valley day hikes.



To experience the Valley with a guide, take the Valley Floor Tour. This 2-hour tour departs several times daily from Yosemite Lodge, weather permitting.

Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at tour/transportation desks at the Yosemite Lodge, open 7:30am to 5pm.

Take a shuttle to Badger Pass!

A free shuttle is available from the Yosemite Lodge to Badger Pass beginning Friday, December 13th, weather permitting

Departs:

Curry Village 8am, 10:30am
Yosemite Village 8:10am, 10:40am
Ahwahnee 8:15am, 10:45am /
Yosemite Lodge 8:30am, 11am

Returns to Valley from Badger

Pass:
2pm, 4pm

POST OFFICE

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

BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

Yosemite Village
The Ansel Adams Gallery
9am to 5pm
10am to 5pm beginning January 1, 2014
Yosemite Bookstore
Inside Yosemite Visitor Center
9am to 5pm
Yosemite Museum Store
9am to 5pm, *may close for lunch*
Closed for construction January 6 through January 31, 2014
Village Store
8am to 8pm
Habitat Yosemite
11am to 4pm Thurs.-Sun. only
Closed for the season January 6 - March 28, 2014
The Ahwahnee
The Ahwahnee Gift Shop
8am to 8pm
The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop
7am to 10pm
Yosemite Lodge
Gift/Grocery
8am to 7pm
Closed January 7 - February 21, 2013
Nature Shop
11am to 7pm
Curry Village
Mountain Shop
9am to 5pm
Curry Village Gift/Grocery
9am-7pm
Wawona Area
Wawona Store and Pioneer Gift Shop
8am to 5pm
Badger Pass
Sport Shop
9am to 4pm
Opens December 13, conditions permitting

Events and Programs

Where to go and what to do

YOSEMITE VALLEY AND BEYOND	
Sunday	<p>8:30am Beginner Backcountry Lesson- Ski to Tempo Dome 5 hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, tickets/info at any tour & activity desk (YMS)\$</p> <p>9:00am Adventure Hike-Snowshoe to Dewey Point 6½ hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, tickets/info at any tour & activity desk (YMS)\$</p> <p>10:00am JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:30am Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter, Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)</p> <p>1:00pm Historic Ahwahnee Tour (Dec. 22 only) 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>1:00pm Discovery Snowshoe Hike 3 hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, tickets/info at any tour & activity desk (YMS)\$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk-Bears 1 1/2hrs. (bear sightings unlikely) Shuttle stop #6.(NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm History of Bracebridge Talk (Dec. 22 only) 30 mins. The Ahwahnee Winter Club Room. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (Jan. 12 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm NIGHT PROWL (Except Jan. 12) 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p>
Monday	<p>9:00am Camera Walk Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel 1 1/2 hrs. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>9:00am Using the Digital Darkroom: Landscapes and Lightroom 4hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$</p> <p>10:30am Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter, Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)</p> <p>1:00pm Historic Ahwahnee Tour (Dec. 16, Dec. 30, Jan. 6, & Feb 10 only) 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>1:00pm Using Your Digital Camera 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk-Yosemite's First People 1 1/2hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm History of Bracebridge Talk (Dec. 16 only) 30 mins. The Ahwahnee Winter Club Room. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (Jan. 13 & Feb. 10 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE WALK (Except Jan 13. & Feb. 10) 1 hr. Conditions permitting. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p>
Tuesday	<p>9:00am Camera Walk Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1 1/2 hrs. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>10:30am Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter, Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)</p> <p>1:00pm Historic Ahwahnee Tour (Dec 24. only) 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>1:00pm In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk-Yosemite: Inspiring Generations 1 1/2hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm History of Bracebridge Talk (Dec. 24 only) 30 mins. The Ahwahnee Winter Club Room. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (Jan. 14 & Feb. 11 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm Ranger Evening Program (Except Dec. 31)1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls (NPS) ♿</p>
Wednesday	<p>9:00am Adventure Hike- Snowshoe to Dewey Point 6 ½ hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center, Mountaineering School Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) \$</p> <p>10:30am Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter (except Dec 11) Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)</p> <p>1:00pm Historic Ahwahnee Tour (Except Jan. 15, 22, & 29, & Feb 5) 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk-Geology 1 1/2hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm History of Bracebridge Talk (Dec. 18 & 25 only) 30 mins. The Ahwahnee Winter Club Room. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (Jan. 15 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm Ranger Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for venue and topic, Yosemite Lodge at the Falls (NPS) ♿</p>
Thursday	<p>9:00am Camera Walk Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1 1/2 hrs. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>10:30am Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter (except Dec 12) Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)</p> <p>1:00pm Using Your Digital Camera 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk-Trees 1 1/2hrs. The Ahwahnee shuttle stop #3. (NPS)</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm NIGHT PROWL 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p>
Friday	<p>10:30am Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter, Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)</p> <p>1:00pm Historic Ahwahnee Tour 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk-Wild about Wildlife 1 1/2hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm WEE WILD ONES (Except Dec. 13 & 20) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm History of Bracebridge Talk (Dec. 13 & 20 only) 30 mins. The Ahwahnee Winter Club Room. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm FIRESIDE STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES (Except Dec. 13, Dec. 20, & Jan. 31) 1 hr. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Film-- Ansel Adams 1hr. Check local listing for venue (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE WALK 1 hr. Conditions permitting. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p>
Saturday	<p>8:30am Adventure Hike- Snowshoe in The Merced Grove of Giant Sequoias 5 hrs. Meet at Yosemite Lodge at the Falls, Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour & activity desk(YMS) \$</p> <p>9:00am Beginner Backpack Workshop (Jan 18 only) 7 hrs. Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act by learning how backpack safely and comfortably! We are pleased to offer this indoor learn-to-backpack workshop. This cozy indoor session is designed to teach you about the equipment, skills and techniques you'll need to go on your first backpack trek. Camping and park entry are included, additional lodging options available. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 ext. 10 (YC) \$</p> <p>9:00am Snowshoeing Yosemite: Mariposa Grove (Jan 11 and Feb 8 only) 8 hrs. See giant sequoias in a way that few visitors have while vigorously snowshoeing into the Mariposa Grove with an expert naturalist. Snowshoes will be provided. Camping and park entry are included, additional lodging options available. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 ext. 10 (YC) \$</p> <p>9:00am Camera Walk Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1 1/2 hrs. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>10:00am JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:30am Snowshoe Walk – Explore the Forest in Winter, Conditions permitting, 2 hrs. Meet at Badger Pass office A-frame for naturalist tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing; snowshoes provided. (NPS)</p> <p>1:00pm Historic Ahwahnee Tour (Except Dec. 21) 1 hr. Sign-up required at The Ahwahnee Concierge Desk. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>1:00pm Discovery Snowshoe Hike 3 hrs. Badger Pass Nordic Center. Tickets/info at any tour & activity desk (YMS)\$</p> <p>1:00pm In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)\$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk – Ahwahneechee Stories and Games 1 ½ hrs. Front of Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9.</p> <p>2:30pm WEE WILD ONES (Except Dec. 14) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm History of Bracebridge Talk (Dec. 14 only) 30 mins. The Ahwahnee Winter Club Room. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm Fine Print Viewing Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery 1 hr. Very limited space (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm Full Moon Snowshoe Walk (Jan. 11 only) 2 hrs. No experience required. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm NIGHT PROWL (Except Jan. 11) 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p>

Access for People with Disabilities Accessible parking, lodging, tours, and activities are available throughout the park.



For a complete list of accessible services, recreational opportunities, and exhibits, pick up an updated Yosemite Accessibility Guide which is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm, 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.

- NPS** National Park Service
- DNC** DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.
- TAAG** The Ansel Adams Gallery
- YC** Yosemite Conservancy
- \$** Programs offered for a fee

Yosemite Valley



Even when it's cold outside, Yosemite Valley offers great activities and programs for the whole family.

Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

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

FILM: SPIRIT OF YOSEMITE

Spirit of Yosemite Hours: shown every 30 minutes, Monday through Saturday between 9:30 am and 4:30 pm, Sunday between noon and 4:30 pm in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

Wilderness Permits

Permits and bear canisters will be available at the Yosemite Valley visitor center daily from 9am to 5pm.

Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center. Open 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch. **Closed for construction January 6 through January 31, 2014.**

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. **Closed for construction January 6 through January 31, 2014.**

The Ansel Adams Gallery

The gallery is located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center and is open daily. Hours are 9am to 5pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other fine artists. See page 7 for photo walk and other event times. For more information, call 209/372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com

EXHIBIT

November 17 - February 23
"Ansel Adams: In Pursuit of Latitude"

Ansel Adams worked and lived the majority of his life in California, but his

dedication to photography took him beyond the boundaries of his backyard of Yosemite, on travels far and wide. On these journeys, his eye frequently focused on the terrestrial forms before him -- for which he is now well known. However, he did not limit his vision strictly to the grand earth gestures, sometimes turning the camera on the man-made or even man himself.

For the first time in over ten years, The Ansel Adams Gallery is hosting an exhibition devoted solely to the work of its namesake. In Pursuit of Latitude intends to share with visitors a wide variety of original photographs taken throughout Ansel's time in Yosemite, on the trail in the Sierra, and on the road -- including rare early prints, portraits, and icons -- which together give perspective to his life's work.

Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures (YC)

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

Jan. 11 *Snowshoeing Yosemite: Mariposa Grove 1*

Explore ancient big trees with Dick Ewart

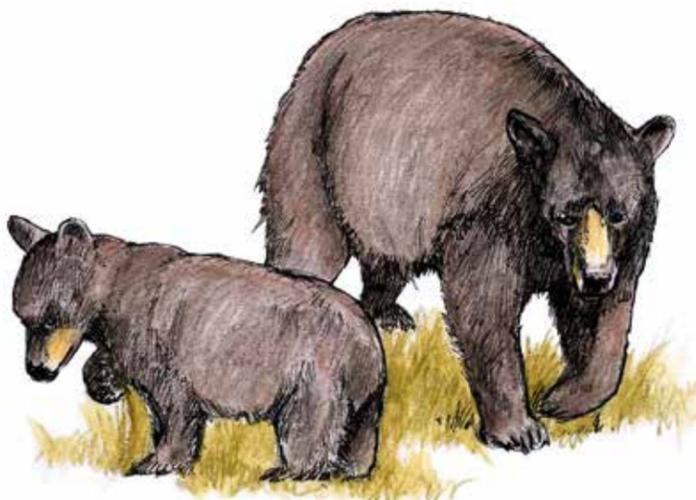
Jan. 18 *Beginner Backpack Workshop*

First-time backpackers receive expert tips in indoor training session

Feb. 8 *Snowshoeing Yosemite: Mariposa Grove 2*

Discover the majestic big trees on snowshoes

Find detailed information about these programs at www.yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or call 209/379-2317, ext. 10. Camping and park entry are included, additional lodging options available. Custom adventures can also be arranged for individuals, families and groups. Proceeds from Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures programs are used to fund trail repair & access, habitat restoration, and wildlife protection. Deepen your understanding of this magnificent place while ensuring its protection for future generations.



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
The Ahwahnee
Dining Room
 Breakfast: 7am to 10:30am
 Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm
 Dinner 5pm - 8:30pm No a la carte service on Bracebridge nights: Dec. 13/14/16/18/20/22/24/25.
 Sunday Brunch: 7am to 2pm
Appropriate attire required for dinner. Reservations recommended for all meals, strongly recommended for dinner and Sunday Brunch. 209/372-1489.
The Ahwahnee Bar 2pm to 11pm
The Coffee Bar 7am to 10pm
- Yosemite Lodge**
Food Court
 Breakfast: 7am to 11am
 Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm
 Dinner: 5pm-8pm
 (Grab and Go only after 7:30pm)
Mountain Room Lounge
 Mon-Fri 4:30pm - 11pm / Sat & Sun Noon - 11pm / Dec 24-Jan 1 Noon - 11pm/ New Year's Eve Noon - 1am
Mountain Room Restaurant
 5 - 8pm / Christmas 4pm - 9pm /New Year's Eve 5pm- 10:30pm
Reservations taken for 8 or more. 209/372-1281
- Curry Village**
Coffee Corner
 7 - 11am, beginning Saturday, Dec 21st thru Sunday, Jan 5th.
 7 - 11am Saturdays and Sunday in Jan and Feb, and on Mon, Jan 20
Pizza Deck
 5 - 9pm beginning Friday, Dec 20 , noon - 9pm beginning Mon Dec 23 thru Wed, Jan 1 and 5 - 9pm Thursday thru Sunday (2nd - 4th).
 Open Fridays 5pm to 9pm and noon to 9pm Saturdays in Jan and on Sun, Jan 19
- Wawona**
Wawona Hotel Dining Room
Closes for the season on Jan 2, 2014
 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
 Lounge Service: 5pm-9:30pm
- Badger Pass**
 Skiers Grill: 8am to 4pm

GROCERIES

- Yosemite Lodge**
Gift/Grocery
 8am to 7pm
Closed January 7 - February 21
- Yosemite Village**
Village Store
 8am to 8pm
- Curry Village**
Gift/Grocery
 9am to 7pm
- Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop**
 8am to 5pm

GAS STATIONS

- Gas outside Yosemite Valley**
El Portal
 Diesel available
 Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card
- Wawona Gas Station**
 8am to 6pm. Diesel & propane.
 Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.
- Crane Flat**
 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

Visitor Services

Beyond Yosemite Valley



Wawona

Visitor Center

Bookstore only open December 20 – 22 and December 27-29.

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 the year.

Wilderness Permits

Wilderness permits can be obtained by self registration on the front porch of Hill's Studio and bear canisters are available for rent at the Wawona Store.

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. Information about access for disabled people is available at the tram boarding 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.

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 snow covers the ground, 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

Closed for the season.

Wilderness Permits

Starting October 15th, the Tioga Road from Crane Flat to Tioga Pass, including all parking lots, is closed to any overnight parking and wilderness permits can be obtained by self registration on the front porch of the information station.

Merced Grove

Yosemite's quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of about 20 trees accessible only on foot. It's a four-mile round-trip hike, ski, or snowshoe (about three hours) into the grove from Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). Located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance, the trailhead is marked by a road sign and post labeled B-10.

Tuolumne Grove

The Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias is currently closed, due to the effects of the Rim Fire in Summer, 2013.

GENERAL SERVICES

VILLAGE GARAGE

8am to 5pm Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4:30pm. 209/372-8320

DENTAL SERVICES

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

YOSEMITE MEDICAL CLINIC

The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 9:00am and 5:00pm and is closed on Saturday and Sunday. 24 hour emergency ambulance service continues to be available. Emergency care: 24 hours daily. 209/372-4637

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH

(Yosemite Chapel) 209-372-4831
 YosemiteValleyChapel.org
 Pastor Brent Moore-Resident Minister

SUNDAY SERVICES:

9:15am (Sunday School Available)
 6:30pm Evening Chapel service

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE:

December 24th 4pm

NEW YEARS WATCH NIGHT SERVICE:

December 31st Chapel at 10pm

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY:

7:00pm at the Moore's home

THURSDAY MID-WEEK SERVICE

7pm in the Chapel

ROMAN CATHOLIC

SUNDAY MASS CELEBRATIONS:

Sunday, 10am Visitor Center Theater, Shuttle Stop # 5 or 9

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS: 10am in the Yosemite Valley Chapel

DAILY MASS CELEBRATIONS: Call for times, 209-372-4729

CHURCH OF CHRIST (NONDENOMINATIONAL)

El Portal Chapel/Worship: Sunday 11 am

Foresta Road, at top of Chapel Lane
 Information: 209/379-2100

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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

AL-ANON MEETINGS

Saturday mornings at 8 am in the Loft (above Degnan's).

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETING Saturday at 7:30PM in the Sunrise room at the DNC Administrative offices

LIONS CLUB

Meets the first Wednesday of each month at noon, Yosemite Lodge. Call 209/372-4475.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Meets Wednesdays for lunch at noon in The Ahwahnee Mural Room. Visiting Rotarian families and guests welcome. For meeting reservations or information, call 209/372-0282.

Protecting yourself...



Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

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

Around Ice and Water

- Stay off of frozen lakes, rivers and streams and away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards.

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 training. Be prepared to shelter overnight even when out just for the day. Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

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

Water Quality

To protect yourself from disease, treat any surface water before drinking. Treatment methods include boiling for five minutes, use of a Giardia-rated water filter, or iodine-based purifier. To prevent the spread of Giardia and other water-borne disease organisms, use restroom facilities where available, and always wash hands afterwards with soap and water. In natural areas where facilities are not available, wash, camp, and bury human waste (6 inches deep) at least 100 feet away from any water source or trail.

Traffic Safety

Roads leading to the park are two-lane, narrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by observing the following simple rules: Please obey posted speed limits. Yosemite's roads are used by both visitors and park wildlife. Use turnouts to pull completely out of the road, to take photos, consult the park map, or simply enjoy the park's scenery and wildlife.

Effects of Altitude

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

Hiking, Backpacking, Backcountry Snow Travel, and Rock Climbing

There are no scheduled winter patrols, so be prepared. Be honest about your abilities and plan with the least experienced member of your group in mind. Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.

- Be prepared for icy travel before conditions arise. Bring crampons, ice axe, climbing skins, and other traction devices.

- Carry and know how to use a map and compass.

- Check weather forecasts. Snow can occur with little warning, and can make route finding very difficult.

- Avoid dehydration or heat exhaustion; carry and drink plenty of water, and bring high-energy food.

- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.

- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

Wilderness Permit Details

Free wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Please see Wilderness Permit Information on 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. Check the park's website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740 (starting on Jan. 5).

Information about Half Dome permits is available on our website at www.nps.gov/yose.

More Information

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

HANTAVIRUS INFORMATION

Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases that are harmful to humans.

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

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

For more information, visit:

- go.nps.gov/hanta

...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.

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.

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 Trail to Columbia Rock	Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7	2 miles round-trip, 2–3 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Upper Yosemite Fall	Same as above	7.2 miles round-trip, 6–8 hours	Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain
Mirror Lake (A seasonal lake)	Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17	2 miles round-trip, 1 hour	Easy
Vernal Fall Footbridge	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 Grant Act 1864-2014

150 Years of Inspiring Generations



Yosemite has inspired generations of people for thousands of years. On June 30, 1864, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Yosemite Grant Act, establishing Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove as the first protected wild land for all time. In addition, this grant marked the first California State Park. Soon after Galen Clark became a Yosemite guardian appointed by the State of California.

In 1890, the land surrounding these two tracts was designated Yosemite National Park. John Muir's persuasive words to President Roosevelt and state authorities led to combining Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove into Yosemite National Park in 1906.

Visionary Americans like Abraham Lincoln, Galen Clark, John Muir, and Theodore Roosevelt, understood that the wonders of the American wilderness are not only our inheritance, but our responsibility. Now, 150 years later, the promise of the Yosemite Grant endures as this beloved national park opens its arms to over 4 million people annually who marvel at the awe-inspiring beauty and gain a new understanding of the importance of preserving our wild lands.

You're Invited!

Join us in honoring the 150th anniversary of the Yosemite Grant Act, as Yosemite National Park and the surrounding region tell the story of how this inaugural act impacted the lives of residents, inspired conservation efforts and partnerships among state and federal park systems, and continues to draw visitors from around the world.

Where can you learn more?

The Anniversary Website
www.nps.gov/yose/anniversary

The site includes an anniversary timeline, a calendar of over one hundred community activities, stories from Yosemite visitors, historic images, interesting facts, inspirational quotes and a video – among other things!

Calendar of Anniversary Activities

The park and surrounding communities have planned a multitude of activities from artist events to festivals, history symposiums to Jr. Ranger programs that will commemorate the 150th anniversary. In addition the Yosemite Conservancy has released *Seed of the Future*, a new Dayton Duncan book, a collection of 150 published visitor stories, and a special Ken Burns' documentary to honor this milestone.

Future anniversaries

Did you know that the world of conservation has many anniversaries over the next few years? Watch for opportunities in the Yosemite region for you to engage in these upcoming milestones:

September 3, 2014 - 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act

October 1, 2015 – 125th Anniversary of Yosemite National Park

October 1, 2015 – 125th Anniversary of Sequoia National Park

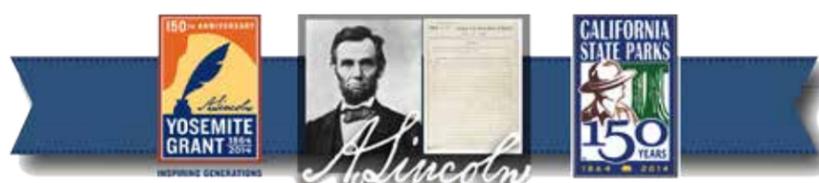
August 25, 2016 – 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service

Thank you

The Yosemite Anniversary Committee consists of 85 volunteers, our park partners, California State Parks, and National Park Service staff. We have a mosaic of backgrounds and interests – with Yosemite at our core. We are honoring the 150th Anniversary through events, programs, projects, and official merchandise found in Yosemite and throughout the communities surrounding the park.

Did you know?

- In 1855, James Mason Hutchings led the first tourist party into the Yosemite area. In this year, a total of 42 tourists visited Yosemite. One of these visitors, artist Thomas Ayres, published the first sketches of Yosemite Valley. The first published description of the Yosemite Valley appeared in Hutchings's "Mariposa Gazette."
- In 1857, Galen Clark explored and publicized the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias.
- In 1864, after Senator John Conness introduced the Yosemite Grant in Congress and President Lincoln signed it, Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove were given to the State of California to be administered. A board of commissioners was appointed to supervise the Grant.
- On May 1st, 1866, Galen Clark was named the first Yosemite Guardian in charge of the Yosemite Grant for the State of California. He became, in effect, the first California State Park Ranger.
- In 1868, influential writer and conservationist John Muir first came to Yosemite



150 Years of Inspiring Generations

By Yosemite Anniversary Committee

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.anseladamsgallery.com.



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DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite

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

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



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

Yosemite Conservancy is the only philanthropic organization that is dedicated exclusively to the protection and preservation of Yosemite National Park and enhancement of the visitor experience. In recent years we have provided over \$70 million in grants to Yosemite from the generous support from donors, volunteers and foundations. The Conservancy works to restore trails, protect wildlife through scientific research and habitat restoration, and offers outdoor programs that provide visitors with unique ways to connect with the park. It has funded projects in areas including trail and habitat restoration, wildlife protection, education, volunteering, and the production of award-winning books and DVDs. Learn more at www.yosemiteconservancy.org



Providing For Yosemite's Future

Yosemite Grant Act 150th Anniversary 1864-2014



150 Years of Inspiring Generations

Yosemite has inspired generations of people for thousands of years. On June 30, 1864, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Yosemite Grant Act, establishing Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove as the first protected wild land for all time. In addition, this grant marked the first California State Park.

Visionary Americans like Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, John Muir, and Galen Clark understood that the wonders of the American wilderness are not only our inheritance, but our responsibility.



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