Jun-Jul 2008

Highcountry Meadow. *Photo by Ken Watson*

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June 11 – July 22

Yosemite Guide

Welcome to Yosemite

Keep this Guide with you to Get the Most Out of Your Trip to Yosemite National Park

Illustration by Lawrence W. Duke

The Yosemite Experience

John Muir once wrote, "As long as I live, I'll hear waterfalls and birds and winds sing. I'll interpret the rocks, learn the language of flood, storm and the avalanche. I'll acquaint myself with the glaciers and wild gardens, and get as near the heart of the world as I can." Yosemite provides nearly 1,200 square miles of forests, meadows, granite cliffs, lakes and ponds, trails, roads, and pristine wilderness to do just that.

As Muir understood, there are as many ways to experience this amazing place as there are granite rocks in the Sierra Nevada landscape. To make the most of your time here, read through and enjoy this newly designed edition of *Yosemite Guide*. The contents of this publication will first give you options for what experiences you choose to have here, help you plan those experiences, provide a listing of services and programs available in each area of the park, then provide more detailed information on topics such as camping and hiking.

Giant Sequoias. *NPS Photo*

An Internationally Recognized Park

Designated a World Heritage Site in 1984, Yosemite is internationally recognized for its spectacular granite cliffs, waterfalls, clear streams, giant sequoia groves, and biological diversity.

High Sierra. *Photo by Bob Roney*

Half Dome. *NPS Photo*

Keep this guide with you as you make your way through the park. Pass it along to friends and family when you get home. Save it as a memento of your trip. This guide represents the collaborative energy of the National Park Service, The Yosemite Fund, DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Yosemite Association, The Ansel Adams Gallery, and Yosemite Institute—organizations dedicated to Yosemite and to making your visit enjoyable and inspiring (see page 23).

National parks were established to preserve what is truly special about America. They are places to be shared, places where everyone is welcome, places where we can re-connect with our spirit. Whether you are here for a few hours or a few days, let Muir's words—and this guide—bring you nearer to the heart of Yosemite. During your visit to Yosemite, perhaps you too will make a lasting connection with this place.

Illustration by Tom Whitworth

Entering a National Park

Prepare yourself for a wild experience. Yosemite is a place where natural forces—such as rockfall, fire, and flood—are constantly at work. Here, wildlife freely roams. This is a place where wilderness prevails. The National Park Service recognizes the importance of Yosemite's natural processes and is bound by its mission to protect them for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. While you are enjoying your visit, be attentive to the special regulations in place to protect park resources (page 6) and those designed for your safety (page 7).

Fire – Police – Medical Emergency: Dial 911

Road, Weather, and General Park Information: 209/372-0200

Yosemite Wilderness

Congress has designated nearly 95 percent of Yosemite National Park as Yosemite Wilderness. Wilderness is meant to protect the land's natural conditions, scientific, educational, ecological, and historic values; and provide opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. To learn more about how to plan your trip and reduce your impact on the Wilderness during your visit, see pages 6 and 7.

Park Access & Parking

The *Yosemite Accessibility Guide* is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm. TTYs are available inside Yosemite Lodge and The Ahwahnee, and outside the Valley Visitor Center and Curry Village office.

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 accessibility signs.

A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of hearing visitors. Call 209/372-4726 to request an interpreter. Advance notice of 14 days is requested.

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

Weather

Sudden changes in weather are common in the Sierra Nevada. Check at a park visitor center for the most up-to-date weather forecast. The National Weather Service broadcasts weather information for Yosemite National Park 24 hours a day on NOAA Weather Radio station KAD-94, on a frequency of 162.450 MHz. Please note that reception may not be available in remote areas.

Road Information

Construction may cause short delays or detours on some park roads. Call 209/372-0200 for recorded road information.

Lost and Found

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

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Exploring Yosemite

Spectacular Vistas and Quiet Corners of the Park

The Incomparable Yosemite National Park

Yosemite National Park embraces one of the world's most outstanding concentrations of spectacular mountain-and-valley scenery. Its Sierran setting harbors a grand collection of high waterfalls and forests, including three groves of giant sequoias. During your visit, experience as much of this glorious place as you desire. These three pages will touch on some ways to experience Yosemite Valley as well as explore the park's other areas and quiet corners.

Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery before you. See pages 12-15 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

The base of **Lower Yosemite Fall** is an easy walk from shuttle stop #6. Impressive views of both the upper and lower falls are seen on the path to the base. This hike features educational exhibits and a picnic area, and is accessible to the mobility impaired. Although Yosemite Falls will dry 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. Cooks 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. The Nature Center at Happy Isles has interactive exhibits and is a great place to take kids. For a strenuous day hike, you can use this trailhead to reach Vernal Fall footbridge (¾ miles) and Nevada Fall (3½ miles). Visitors with mobility impairments can obtain a placard at the Valley Visitor Center or an entrance station that will authorize them to drive to the Nature Center at Happy Isles or Mirror Lake.

The walk to **Mirror Lake/Mirror Meadow** is a moderately easy, one-mile walk from shuttle stop #17. During spring, you will see mirror reflections of Half Dome. The lake is naturally evolving into a meadow and dries up by summer's end.

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, see page 21 for a listing of popular day hikes and stop by a visitor center for a trail map.

To experience the Valley by bike, bring or rent a bike. Rentals are available daily, weather permitting. Baby-joggers, wheelchairs, and six-speed bikes with trailers can be rented as well. Rentals at Yosemite Lodge and Curry Village are both open 8:30 am to 8:30 pm. Call 209/372-8319 for information.

To experience the Valley on an open-air tram tour, take the Valley Floor Tour. This 26-mile, 2-hour tour departs several times daily from Yosemite Lodge. Moonlight Tram Tours also available the days just prior to and after the full moon.

Experience the Valley by raft along the Merced River. Raft rentals are available daily, weather and river conditions permitting. Rentals at Curry Village are open 10 am to 4 pm. Call 209/372-8319 for information.

To experience the Valley on mule or horseback, 2-hour rides depart daily. Call 209/372-8348. The stables are located at shuttle stop #18 and are open 7 am to 5 pm.

Top Left: Biking through the Valley. *Photo by P. Meierding*

Top Right: Valley Visitor Center Desk. *NPS Photo*

Bottom Right: Lower Yosemite Fall. *Photo by Ray Santos*

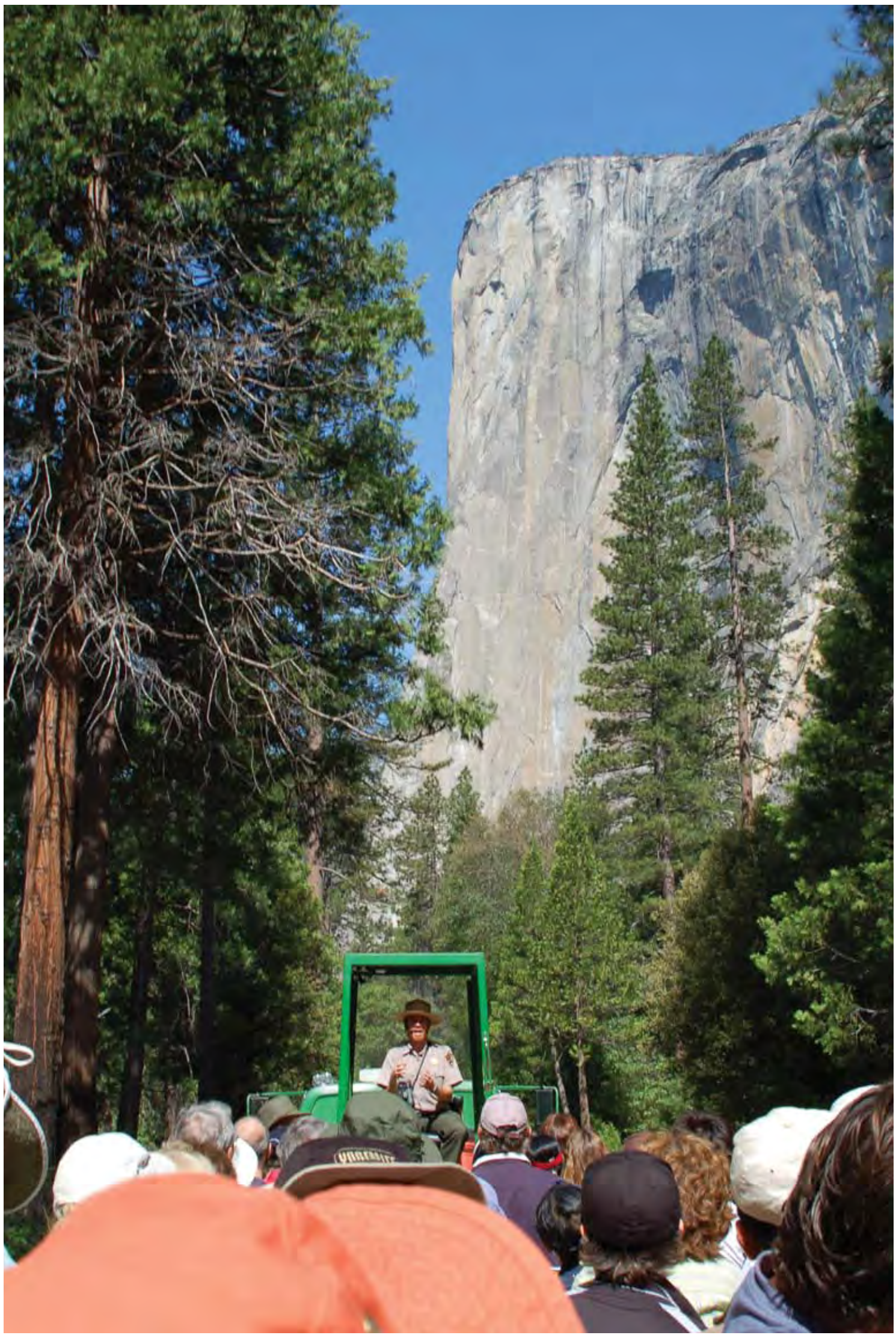
Wawona

Located six miles from the park's South Entrance or a one-hour drive from the Valley, the Wawona area tells the story of Yosemite's human history and pioneer past. The charming 19th-century Wawona Hotel and the Pioneer Yosemite History Center are a history buff's delight. The center is a collection of historic buildings associated with the people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite. Interpretive signs and a brochure provide a self-guiding tour. In summer, take a journey through time on a horse-drawn stage ride. Hill's Studio, a painting studio from the 1880s, now operates as a visitor information station. To experience Wawona on mule or horseback, the Wawona Stable is open 7 am to 5 pm. Call 209/375-6502. Also in Wawona, you will find walks and hikes of varying difficulty to places like Wawona Meadow and Chilnualna Falls, one of the tallest outside Yosemite Valley.

A short drive from Wawona is the **Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias,** Yosemite's largest stand of giant sequoias (about 500 trees), and one of three groves of giant sequoias in the park (road closed to vehicles from sometime in November through May). Trail brochures are available in several languages. A one-hour tram tour of the upper and lower groves is available (normally operating between mid-May and mid-October, 9 am to 5 pm). This audio tour is available in five languages and for the visually impaired. Call 209/375-1621 for information. *Note: To reduce traffic congestion and avoid parking delays, ride the free shuttle spring through fall from Wawona to the Grove. Trailers and vehicles 25 feet and longer are not allowed on the Mariposa Grove Road.* ***Neither bikes nor dogs are allowed in the grove.***

Glacier Point

The Glacier Point Road is open late May through sometime in November; Glacier Point is approximately a one-hour drive from either Yosemite Valley or Wawona. The Glacier Point Road takes you right to the brink of Yosemite Valley. Go to the railing's edge and catch your breath at an exhilarating view, looking down 3,214 feet to the Valley floor. The paved trail to Glacier Point is wheelchair-accessible. For a 360-degree panoramic view of Yosemite's unbelievable landscape, take the 1.1-mile hike from the Sentinel/Taft Trailhead to the top of Sentinel Dome. For a hike to deep fissures and an overhanging lookout point, choose the trail to Taft Point.



Top Right: Sequoia with Dogwood. *Photo by Christine White Loberg*

Top Far Right: Glacier Point. *Photo by Christine White Loberg*

Middle Far Right: At Tunnel View. *Photo by Bob Roney*

Bottom Right: Valley Floor Tour. *Photo by P. Meierding*

A wonderful place to learn about nature, history, and yourself

Tuolumne Meadows is a stunningly picturesque region at 8,600 feet up in the dramatic sky of Yosemite's high country. Contained in a basin about 2.5 miles long, this meadow system is one of the largest in the Sierra Nevada at the subalpine level.

Tuolumne Meadows and Lembert Dome Before Storm. *Photo by John Sun*

Tuolumne Meadows

Tuolumne Meadows is only 55 miles (1.5 hrs) by road from Yosemite Valley, but it's a world apart. The hiking around Tuolumne Meadows is first-rate. The trails are varied, the scenery is exceptional, and the weather usually cooperative (but plan for afternoon thundershowers). A person could take a different hike every day of the week and still not exhaust the possibilities. Some popular hikes are those to Cathedral Lakes, Elizabeth Lake, Lembert Dome, Dog Lake, or along the Tuolumne River through Lyell Canyon. Stop at the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center for hiking information. For hiking adventures departing from Tuolumne Meadows and arriving in Yosemite Valley, take advantage of the Tuolumne Meadows Hikers' Bus, which departs from Yosemite Lodge at 8:20 am daily. Call 209/372-1240 for information. To experience the Tuolumne Meadows area on mule or horseback, visit the Tuolumne Meadows Stable. Open 7 am to 5 pm. Call 209/372-8427.

Tioga Road

Originally a wagon road built by the Great Sierra Consolidated Silver Company in 1883, the Tioga Road splits Yosemite National Park in two. Improved to its present condition and realignment in 1961, the road opened up some of Yosemite's most stunning country and allowed easier access to previously remote high-country destinations. This road is generally closed from November to late May or early June. There are several stops along the road that are worth a visit.

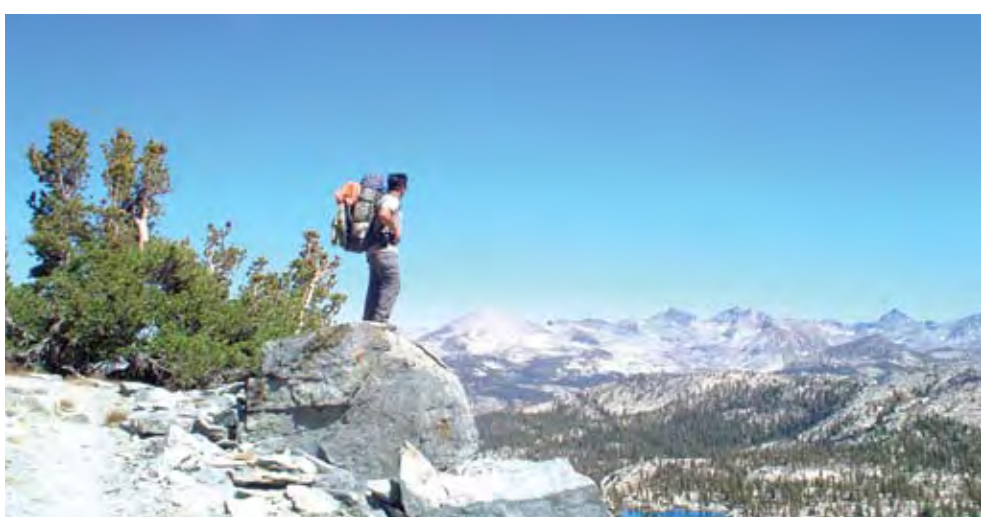
At **White Wolf,** you could easily spend an entire afternoon exploring the lush meadows and forests of this Tioga Road retreat. Take a day hike to a peaceful lake, such as Harden Lake (a mostly flat six-mile round trip). You will find the trailhead located near the campground in the heart of White Wolf.

Olmsted Point is located about midway between White Wolf and Tuolumne Meadows. This overlook offers one of the most spectacular vistas anywhere in the park. Here, the sheer granite walls of Tenaya Canyon and Clouds Rest frame a magnificent view of Half Dome.

A few minutes east of Olmsted Point is **Tenaya Lake,** named for the leader of Yosemite Valley's native people when Euro-Americans arrived. Tenaya Lake is approximately eight miles west of Tuolumne Meadows, or 30 miles east of Crane Flat. This is one of the best places to have a picnic along the Tioga Road. The inviting sandy beach on the eastern shore is a wonderful spot, but if you decide to swim, be prepared for some cold water.

Hetch Hetchy

Hetch Hetchy Valley is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen and Hetch Hetchy Roads; it is 40 miles from Yosemite Valley. The Hetch Hetchy Road has restricted hours. Call 209/372-0200 for the most up-to-date information. Vehicles over 25 feet are prohibited on the narrow Hetch Hetchy Road. Once considered a twin to Yosemite Valley, this valley was described by John Muir as "a grand landscape garden, one of Nature's rarest and most precious mountain temples." Hetch Hetchy is located along the Tuolumne River in the northern part of the park and now contains a reservoir created by the O'Shaughnessy Dam. This dam was built to provide water for the city of San Francisco, and the dam was completed in 1923 and raised to its present height in 1938. Hetch Hetchy's towering cliffs and plunging waterfalls make this a popular hiking area from spring to fall. Hetch Hetchy's relatively low elevation gives the area one of the longest hiking seasons in Yosemite.
Lake Eleanor is also nestled in the northwestern edge of Yosemite. Fishing, camping, swimming and motorless boating are permitted on this reservoir. The lake can be accessed from Highway 120.



Backpacking near Red Peak Pass. *Photo by Victoria Mates*

Olmsted Point Erratic. *NPS Photo*

Sight-Seeing By Motor Coach

Several motor coach sightseeing tours are available to destinations within Yosemite.

The Glacier Point Tour is a four-hour round trip from Yosemite Valley to Glacier Point, which departs daily at 8:30 and 10 am, and 1:30 pm from Yosemite Lodge. The Glacier Point Tour also offers a one-way ticket for adventurers to hike back down to Yosemite Valley. The Grand Tour is an eight-hour combination of Big Trees and Glacier Point tours and departs at 8:45 am daily from Yosemite Lodge.

Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at tour/transportation desks at the following locations:

Yosemite Lodge Tour Desk
7:30 am to 7 pm

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
9 am to 7 pm

Village Store Tour Kiosk
7:30 am to 3 pm

Curry Village Tour Kiosk
7:30 am to 3 pm

Big Trees Tour Kiosk
9 am to 5 pm

Bears and Wildlife

Enjoying wildlife safely and responsibly

Sow and Cub. *Photo by Christine White Loberg*

Keeping Bears Wild

(while protecting yourself and your property)

Top Three Ways to Keep Yosemite's Black Bears Wild and Alive:

1. Store Your Food Properly.

(see table below for details) 4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, berries, acorns, and grubs—that's the typical 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

Did you notice the red bear markers as you drove through the park? Each of them marks an area where several bears have been hit by cars in recent years. Every year, bears, hundreds of deer, and countless other animals are killed while trying to cross park roads. Many of these deaths could have been avoided if drivers observed posted speed limits.

Please remember that Yosemite National Park is a wildlife preserve: by driving the speed limit, you are helping to protect the park and its wildlife.

Backpackers:
Save Your Food, Save A Bear

Bear resistant food canisters are 2.7-pound containers that can be used to store five or more days of backpacker food when meals are carefully planned. Canisters have an inset lid that bears are unable to open. When used correctly, bears quickly learn that—although they smell like food—the canisters are not worth investigating.

Bear canisters are available for $5 per trip at the Valley Wilderness Center, the Wawona Information Station at Hill's Studio, Big Oak Flat Information Station, Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station. Canisters can be rented and retuned at any of these locations.

Report All Bear Sightings!

To report bear sightings, improper food storage, trash problems, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at 209/372-0322. Your call can be made anonymously.

For more information regarding bears and proper food storage, visit the park's website (www.nps.gov/yose/bears).

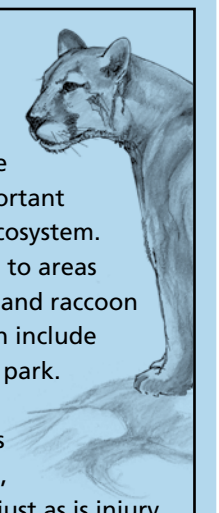
How to Store Food

"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.

Note: Improper food storage may result in impoundment of your food or vehicle, a fine of up to $5,000, and/or revocation of camping permit. Following these regulations and precautions decreases the chance of personal injury or property damage. However, bear damage and confrontations are still possible, even when all the regulations and guidelines are followed.

Mountain Lions



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

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

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

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

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

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

Generally, mountain lions are calm, quiet, and elusive. Sightings are rare, so if you spot one, consider yourself privileged!

Protecting Your Park

Special Protection for Special Places

The Water Ways

Not long ago, many areas along the Merced River showed signs of human trampling. Now, because of the careful actions of park staff and visitors, many of these areas have been restored to more natural conditions. The plants, birds, insects, and animals that depend on living in or near the water have been able to return to these once barren areas. You can help continue this progress by entering and exiting the river at designated launch and removal points. Packing out what you pack in will also help keep the river free from trash and prevent animals from swallowing harmful plastic or aluminum.

Please observe the following safety tips to protect Yosemite's river and lakeshore habitats and to safely enjoy water activities throughout the park.

Swimming

Choose swimming areas carefully and swim only during low water conditions.

- Always supervise children closely.
- Avoid areas of whitewater, where streams flow over rocky obstructions.
- Never swim or wade upstream from the brink of a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Each year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.
- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir, May Lake or Emerald Pool.

River Crossings

In summer, rivers and creeks swollen by runoff from snowmelt are dangerous.

- Stay away from river and creek banks during high water conditions and avoid rock hopping. Stream-polished rocks along the water's edge are slippery when wet or dry.
- If you choose to cross a stream without a bridge, avoid places where the water is either swift or over your knees. Use a stick or pole for balance and try to cross where there is a gravel bottom. Crossing on a natural bridge of rocks or logs can be surprisingly slippery. Consider where you will land if you fall. Never cross above rapids or falls. To prevent being pulled under by the weight or your pack, unbuckle the waist strap so you can shed it if you fall in. Do not tie yourself into safety ropes—they can drown you.

Rafting

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

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

Fishing

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

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

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.

Pets

Some visitors choose to bring pets along on their vacations. Kennels (open only in summer) are located at the Yosemite Valley Stable, should you need a place to board your dog (call (209/372-8348). Keep in mind, in Yosemite, pet owners have a few rules to follow:

- Pets are only allowed in developed areas and on roads and paved bike paths. They are not allowed on other trails, in wilderness areas, or where signs are posted indicating as such.
- Pets must be on a leash (6 feet or less) or otherwise physically restrained.
- For the courtesy of others, human companions are responsible for cleaning up and depositing pet feces in trash receptacles. This protects pets and wildlife from disease.
- Pets are not allowed in any accommodations within the park and are not allowed in some campgrounds.
- Pets may not be tied to an object and left unattended.

Bicycling

Each season, plants are crushed from bicycle travel in meadows, campgrounds, and picnic areas. Please respect park resources and keep bicycles on paved roads and paved trails. They are not allowed to travel off-trail, on unpaved trails, or in wilderness areas. Mountain biking opportunities are available in designated areas outside of Yosemite.

Red Bear, Dead Bear

Speeding cars hit dozens of black bears, hundreds of deer, and countless other animals on park roads every year. The Red Bear, Dead Bear signs along park roads mark a place where a bear was recently hit. Driving the speed limit can help save wild animals.

Our Guardians...

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park's most important guardians. With nearly 3.5 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 to locate and collect historic objects
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Camping outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons

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.

Upper Yosemite Fall. *NPS Photo*

Protecting Yourself

Experience Yosemite —Safely

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.

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.

Pack Water

Avoid dehydration or heat exhaustion; carry and drink plenty of water.

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). The risk of occurrence increases with age and with diseases of the heart and lungs. Symptoms include headache, nausea, insomnia, irritability, shortness of breath, general malaise and fatigue. The best way to avoid it is to slowly acclimatize yourself to higher elevations, over the span of two to three days by gradually gaining elevation until you reach 10,000 feet (Tioga Pass). Avoid alcohol, sugar and high-fat meals. 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, Rock Climbing and Scrambling

- Be honest about your abilities and plan activities with the least experienced member of your group in mind. Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back. Carry a signal mirror and whistle. Solo activities require increased precautions.
- Stay on designated trails or routes. Carry and know how to use a map and compass.
- Avoid scrambling in steep terrain or off-trail. If new to climbing, take a class to learn important safety techniques before venturing out alone.
- Check weather forecasts prior to your trip. Sudden, extreme changes in weather can occur even in summer.
- 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.
- Avoid the combination of wetness, wind, and cold. Know symptoms and treatments for hypothermia. Carry fire starting materials and food.

Protect Yosemite's Wilderness

- Pack out all trash and toilet paper/ sanitary products.
- Use gas stoves rather than wood fires.
- Camp in an existing campsite at least 100 feet from water and trail. You must be four miles from any populated area and one mile from any road before camping.
- To minimize trampling of vegetation, bring a container to carry water to your camp from lakes or streams.
- Maximum group size is 15 people for trail travel and eight people for off-trail travel.
- Yosemite is a wildlife preserve. Pets, weapons, bicycles, strollers, and motor vehicles are never allowed on Yosemite's wilderness trails.

Wilderness Permits

Free wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. A limited number of overnight users are permitted to enter the wilderness for each day on each trail. Sixty percent of each daily trailhead quota is available by reservation, and 40% of trailhead quotas are available on a first-come, first-served basis the day of or one day in advance of departure. Maximum group size is 15 people, 8 for cross-country travel. Trailhead quotas for popular trails often fill, but there is always space available at trailheads elsewhere in the park. No permit is required for day hiking. Permits are issued at wilderness centers located in Yosemite Valley, Tuolumne Meadows, Big Oak Flat, Wawona, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station. For general hiking information or for information on making a wilderness permit reservation, visit any park wilderness center.

Backpackers who plan to visit during from May through September are encouraged to make a permit reservation. Reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. There is a $5 per person reservation fee. To make a permit reservation, check the park's website for trailhead availability, plan an itinerary, and then call 209/372-0740.

More Information

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

Fire Safety

Each year campfires, cigarettes, and human carelessness cause unwanted fires in Yosemite. You can help prevent these fires by following a few fire safety tips.

Campfires

- Build small campfires in established campfire rings.
- Never leave a campfire unattended.
- Extinguish campfires by stirring with water a half hour before leaving the site. Carefully feel charred material to make certain the fire is cold and out.

Cigarettes

- Never throw lighted cigarettes on the ground or out of a car window.
- Crush cigarettes butts dead and out before discarding them in an ashtray or trash can.
- Do not smoke while walking on trails. Stop, smoke, and properly discard the cigarette butt before resuming your walk.

Charcoal Briquettes

- Never burn charcoal briquettes in a tent or vehicle. The carbon monoxide produced by burning charcoal is deadly in a confined space.
- After use, dunk burning briquettes in water until cold. Carefully check them to make sure the fire is out.
- Never throw burning or warm briquettes into trashcans or dumpsters.

Camping Stoves and Lanterns

- Refuel stoves or lanterns only when they are cold and in a well-ventilated area.
- Never use gas-fueled lanterns and stoves in tents, vehicles, or other confined spaces. These devices produce carbon monoxide gas which can be deadly.

Top Left: Wilderness Exploration. *Photo by Bob Roney*

Top Right: El Capitan. *NPS Photo*

Just for Kids

Yosemite offers a variety of walks, presentations, and storytimes in the park. **Wee Wild Ones** is a 45-minute program packed with stories, games, and fun surprises specifically for pre-schoolers. LeConte Memorial Lodge offers family programs and walks geared for kids. **Children's Storytime** includes a 30-minute tale for children 7 and under. **Children's Theatre** offers a fun way for kids to connect through live performances. Here are just a few examples of the possibilities.

Join a National Park Ranger for a **Junior Ranger Hike or Campfire** program. These hands-on programs explore Yosemite's natural world.

Spend an evening lying in a meadow looking up at a brilliant sky at the **Starry Skies over Yosemite** program. This program is offered for a fee in Wawona and Yosemite Valley.

Visit the **Nature Center at Happy Isles**. See wildlife exhibits and a display of Yosemite at night or play in the children's corner. Open daily from late spring to September. Take the shuttle to stop #16.

Go into the Field! Join the **Yosemite Institute** on their fun and challenging residential field science program, a five-day introduction to Yosemite's outdoor classroom. Other custom programs for all ages are available. Contact the Yosemite Institute (for more information, see page 23).

Discover Yosemite Books. Learn about the park with *Two Bear Cubs*, an American Indian legend about El Capitan or *The World of Small,* which comes with a magnifying glass. To order these and other titles, call the Yosemite Association at 209/379-2648 or visit www.YosemiteStore.com. For additional selections, shop Yosemite online at www.YosemiteGifts.com.

Kids Corner

Featuring Children and Family Programming

Junior Rangers and Little Cubs Wanted!

Kids ages 3-13 are invited to become a Little Cub or Junior Ranger. **If you are 7-13, you can become a Yosemite Junior Ranger** by purchasing a self-guided booklet published by the Yosemite Association. In order to earn a Junior Ranger patch and badge, the booklet must be completed, a bag of trash collected, and any guided program attended. See pages 14-19 for a complete schedule activities, including ranger-led Junior Ranger programs.

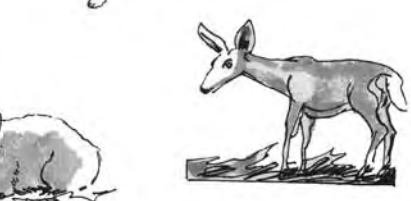
Between the ages of 3 and 6? Yosemite has a program for YOU! Little Cubs is a self-guided booklet that encourages our young visitors and their families to discover Yosemite's wonders and to earn a Little Cubs button. This booklet (published by the Yosemite Association) is sold at park visitor center bookstores.

FIND THE ANIMALS OF YOSEMITE

Find the underlined names of the animals of Yosemite in the word search.

CALIFORNIA BAT

GREY FOX



GROUND SQUIRREL

GREAT HORNED OWL

PIKA

MULE DEER

PEREGRINE FALCON

S	G	M	I	P	S	H	B	R	E	E	D
H	V	W	F	G	J	M	A	I	P	O	K
E	W	L	A	C	S	K	T	U	B	D	J
E	R	L	L	G	L	Y	T	U	I	C	D
P	O	R	C	U	P	I	N	E	L	G	I
S	V	H	O	W	L	N	B	T	A	R	N
Q	D	T	N	S	Q	U	I	R	R	E	L
B	E	A	R	O	Y	B	D	E	K	Y	L
L	U	B	V	K	U	H	A	A	S	F	P
S	N	A	K	E	H	K	F	E	R	O	T
U	L	F	P	I	K	A	F	E	E	X	C

BIGHORN SHEEP

RATTLESNAKE

PORCUPINE

BLACK BEAR

Word search excerpted from Junior Ranger Handbook © Yosemite Association

Yosemite Secrets

Feature Article

Illilouette Fall. *Photo by Victoria Mates*

Have you ever wondered about a ranger's favorite Yosemite spot?

Deep in the heart of Yosemite Valley lies an expansive meadow with perfect views of Yosemite Falls, Half Dome, and Cathedral Rocks—a place where one can see immense granite cliffs and delicate wildflowers. This place, called Cook's Meadow, is one of my favorite spots.

Yosemite Secrets

by Ranger Jeffrey Trust

Visitors often ask where rangers' favorite haunts are, believing they are precious secrets. However, the truth is that many "secret" spots are simply hidden in plain view.

Consider Cook's Meadow. Many people make pilgrimages to Lower Yosemite Fall—just across the street—yet surprisingly few take the quick stroll around this beautiful meadow. Meadows are home to so much life. In fact, nowhere in Yosemite will you find greater diversity of plants and animals. Deer, bears, numerous birds, and an unbelievable number of smaller creatures all depend upon the amazing variety of plants found there.

Upriver you can find another, and perhaps my original, favorite place. It has no waterfall, no grand vista. Yet, if I could visit Yosemite and spend only a few minutes at one place, I might spend it away from Yosemite's most famous scenery. I might sit at Happy Isles. This obscure spot on the map inspired W. E. Dennison, one of Yosemite's first guardians, to write:

"There are three islets just above the bridge which have never been given a place in Yosemite geography, so far as I am able to learn, and, commemorative of the emotions which I enjoyed when exploring them, I have named them the Happy Isles, for no one can visit them without for the while forgetting the grinding strife of his world and being happy."

Perhaps it was at Happy Isles that I learned about rest. There, I could hear nothing but the roar of water and the chirping of birds. There, I could gaze up at a dark, yet brilliant, night sky. I could spend hours there; indeed, I have.

Another favorite: Illilouette Fall. At 370 feet tall, this striking waterfall stands testament to the power of glaciers. An example of a hanging valley, a small glacier carved Illilouette Canyon while a larger, more effective, glacier flowed through the Merced River Canyon. The larger glacier out-carved the smaller one, leaving Illilouette Canyon at a higher elevation. This fortunate inequality left its legacy in the form of Illilouette Fall. It is visible from the trail from Happy Isles to Vernal Fall; however, it is best seen from a few miles below Glacier Point from along Panorama Trail.

Also not far from Glacier Point lies Dewey Point. Aside from the undeniably stunning view from the point, the hike there conveys the nature of Wilderness. Once while hiking along the trail, I heard branches crashing. Startled, I saw a large bear who was equally surprised, if not more so, running away as quickly as physically possible. Black bears not accustomed to humans react this way. Yosemite may be known for bears that frequent campgrounds and parking lots in search of easily obtainable food, yet most bears, like this one, would consider such close proximity to people their worst fear. Such is the nature of wildness—the non-reliance upon, and unfamiliarity with, humans. Nearly all of Yosemite is wild—and legally required to be kept that way by the Wilderness Act.

John Muir once wrote, "thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that wildness is a necessity..." You don't need to travel far to find special places, to find wildness, or to forget the distractions of everyday life. Every place I mentioned is within a few hours'—if not a few minutes'—walk and in or near Yosemite Valley, just one small part of the park. The other 90 percent of Yosemite is also waiting for your discovery. You don't need to seek these experiences; you just need an open mind. And then, you will discover your own Yosemite secrets.

Far Above: Cook's Meadow. *Photo by Jeffrey Trust*

Above: Happy Isles. *NPS Photo*

Entrance Fees

Reservations are NOT required to enter Yosemite National Park.

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.

INFORMATION OUTSIDE THE PARK

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

Tuolumne County
Visitors Bureau
800/446-1333
www.thegreatunfenced.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
Yosemite Mariposa Tourism Bureau (also info for Fish Camp, Wawona, Yosemite West, and Buck Meadows)
866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081
www.homeofyosemite.com

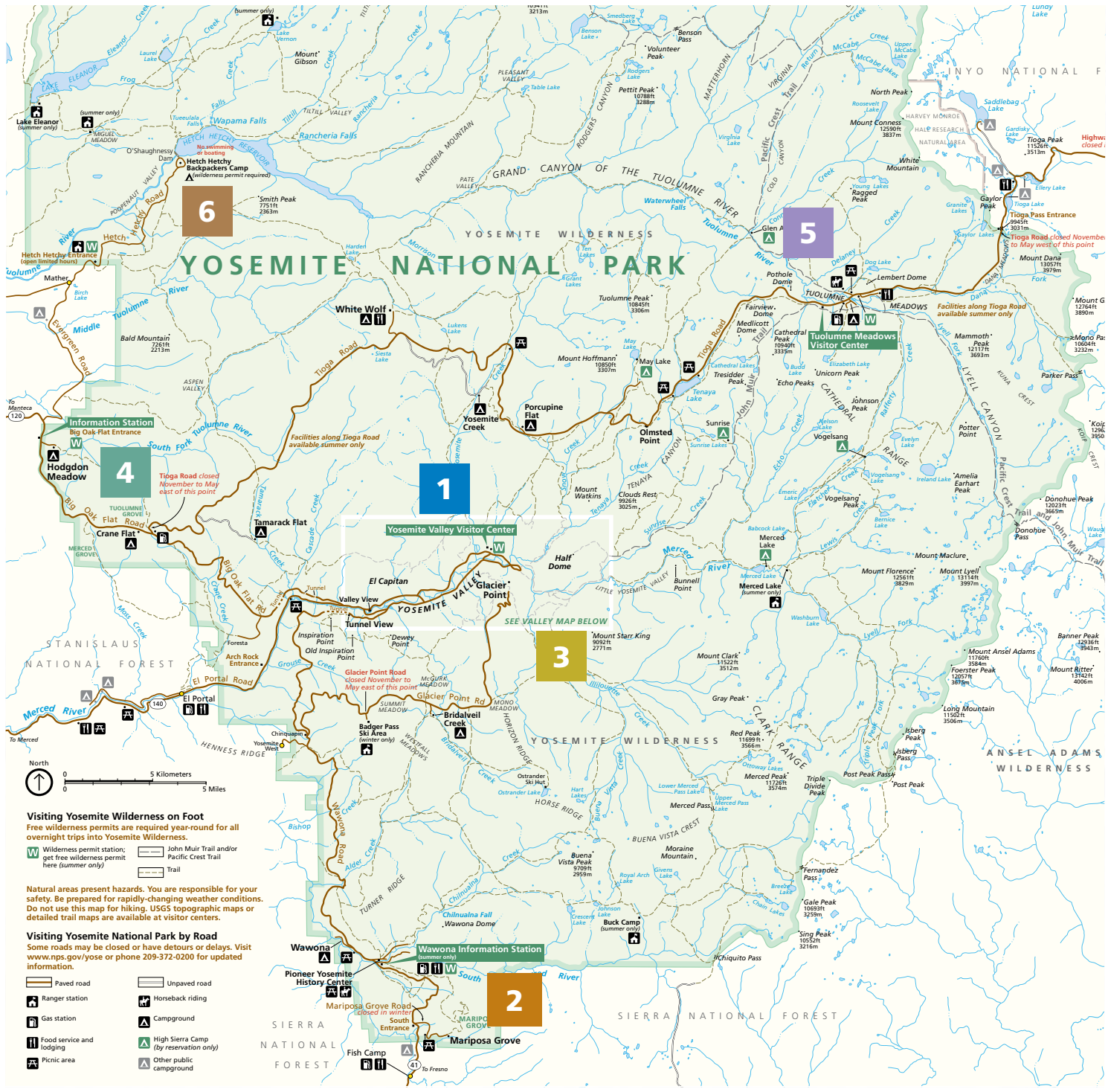
Highway 120 East
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center
760/647-6629
www.leevining.com

California Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5353 or 209/384-2791
www.yosemite-gateway.org

Yosemite is Open
YEAR-ROUND
Entrances are Open
24 HOURS

Planning Your Trip

What do you want your experience to be?



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 in late spring through late fall via the Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) from Lee Vining.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

2 The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park's South Entrance station. The road to the Mariposa Grove is closed from sometime in December to April. 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.

Glacier Point

3 Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the Sierra Nevada, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), then turn left onto Glacier Point Road. Glacier Point Road is open from late May or early June through sometime in November. Mid-December through March, the road is plowed only as far as Badger Pass Ski Area.

Crane Flat

4 Crane Flat is a pleasant forest and meadow area located 16 miles from Yosemite Valley at the junction of Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. 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 2 steep miles down to this small grove.

Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

5 The Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. It is generally open from late May or early June through sometime in November. The road's elevation ranges from 6,200 to just under 10,000 feet. Along this corridor lies Tuolumne Meadows. Here, the Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River meanders peacefully amidst wildflowers, domes, and views of high mountain peaks.

Hetch Hetchy

6 Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is also home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley via Highway 120 and Evergreen and Hetch Hetchy Roads. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open 7 am to 9 pm.

Your Visit to Yosemite National Park

Your experience in Yosemite depends on the time you have available and your interests. Many fine maps and books are sold in visitor centers and park stores to help plan your visit. Publications, such as the *Guidebook to Yosemite,* published by Yosemite Association, are available at visitor center bookstores or by mail.

(Yosemite Association Bookstore, P.O. Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318, 209/379-2648, fax 209/379-2486, or www.yosemitestore.com.)

If you have...

1 Day

Park your car in Yosemite Village and ride the free shuttle bus around Yosemite Valley to popular destinations. Be sure to stop at the Valley Visitor Center and Yosemite Museum to learn more about Yosemite's story and view the park's award-winning, 23-minute film *Spirit of Yosemite*. Attend a special event, ranger program, or guided tour (see pages 12-19). The popular Valley Floor Tour is a two-hour open-air tram tour that takes you past many of the Valley's unique features.

A great way to see any area of the park is to meander along a trail, bike path, or meadow boardwalk. Pick up self-guiding trail brochure, *A Changing Yosemite*, in front of the Valley Visitor Center and follow the trail posts around Cook's Meadow. The short walk to the base of Lower Yosemite Fall is well worth it, especially during the spring season, when the waterfall thunders down the Valley wall. See page 21 for some other trail options, including other self-guiding trails. Before leaving the park, visit giant sequoias in the Mariposa, Tuolumne, or Merced Groves.

2 Days

Consider the suggestions for one day, but perhaps choose two areas of the park to explore. Take in the bird's-eye view of the Valley from Glacier Point and perhaps take a hike to Sentinel Dome or Taft Point. Choose a longer hike to venture more deeply into the Yosemite Wilderness. You might enjoy the features of Yosemite while pedaling a bike, floating on a leisurely raft trip, or riding on horseback. Travel back in time on a horse-drawn stage ride or during a blacksmith demonstration in Wawona. Hike or take a tram tour through the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias.

Travel the Tioga Road, where spectacular scenery, vast meadows, and mountain lakes await you. Choose places to stop, picnic, hike, and spend more time based on what appeals most to you. Stop at Olmsted Point for incredible views of Half Dome, Clouds Rest, and Tenaya Canyon. Climb a dome near Tuolumne Meadows.

Nightly programs are available (see pages 12-19). Night sky programs, evening talks, campfires, and theater performances are just a few options that may be available on the nights you are here.

3 Days

For a three-day trip, you could visit all areas or spend your time becoming intimate with one. If your goal is to cover as much of the park as possible, don't miss Yosemite Valley, Glacier Point, the Tioga Road, Tuolumne Meadows, and a giant sequoia grove. You might take advantage of an art class at Yosemite Art and Education Center or participate in a Yosemite Association Outdoor Adventures. To improve outdoor skills, Yosemite Mountaineering School offers programs, guide services, and classes.

or if you are...

Returning

Visit a new area of the park—or focus your visit in just one favorite location. For unique scenery as well as access to the northern Yosemite Wilderness, perhaps travel to Hetch Hetchy. No matter where you are exploring, attend a program or event to learn something new. To increase your involvement, take part in a volunteer clean-up or resource protection project. Attend a park open house to learn about future projects and how to help shape Yosemite's future (see page 22). Explore the potential for becoming a Yosemite Association volunteer to spend a month living and volunteering in Yosemite.

Additional Information

Religious Services

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(Nondenominational Christian)
Wedding information at
www.yosemitevalleychapel.org

WORSHIP SERVICE/YOSEMITE VALLEY CHAPEL
Sunday 9:15 am, 11 am and 6:30 pm
Thursday 7 pm
Tuesday Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm
Held at Pastor Brent's home, call 209/372-4831
Tuesday Men's Bible Study 7 pm

Campground Worship Services in Lower Pines (Yosemite Valley), Wawona, and Tuolumne Meadows at 9 am Sunday

ROMAN CATHOLIC
Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Theater
Saturday Mass 7:30 pm
Sunday Mass 10 am

CHURCH OF CHRIST (NONDENOMINATIONAL)
El Portal Chapel/Worship Service
Sunday 11 am
Foresta Road, at top of Chapel Lane

CROSSWAY TRIBE OF JESUS (CHRISTIAN PROTESTANT)
Worship Gathering Wednesday 7:30 pm
Yosemite Valley Chapel

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
Sacrament Meeting at Yosemite Valley Chapel
Sunday 1 pm

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
Yosemite Valley at Lower River Amphitheater, across bridge from Housekeeping Camp or left at gate, approx. ⅓ mile north of Stoneman Bridge. Saturday Service (no services July 19) Music 9:45 am/Sabbath School 10 am/Worship Service 11 am/Potluck Picnic 12:30 pm
Coordinators: Ray & Edie DeFehr 209/586-4325

Service Organizations

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

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

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

Get More Info...

BY PHONE & WEB
Recorded General Park Information including:
Road & Weather Conditions,
Trip Planning Information, etc.
209/372-0200

Western U.S. National Parks
415/556-0560

ON THE WEB
Yosemite National Park
www.nps.gov/yose

The Ansel Adams Gallery
www.anseladams.com

Camping Reservations
www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/camping.htm

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite
www.yosemitepark.com

Regional Information
www.yosemite.com

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

Yosemite Association
www.yosemite.org

Yosemite Fund
www.yosemitefund.org

Yosemite Institute
www.yni.org/yi

RESERVATIONS
Campground Reservations
(callers from U.S. and Canada)
800/444-6777
TTY (toll-free) 877/833-6777

Campground Reservations
(International callers only)
518/885-3639

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

VISITOR CENTERS
Excellent resources for park information, wilderness permits, and park-related publications and handouts.

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
Open daily all year.
Current hours: 9 am to 7 pm

Big Oak Flat Information Station
Closed in winter; generally open spring through fall.
Current hours: 9 am to 7 pm

Wawona Information Station
at HIll's Studio (next to Wawona Hotel) Closed in winter; generally open spring through fall.
Current hours: 8:30 am to 5 pm (weekends until 6 pm)

Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center
Closed in winter and spring; generally open June through September.
Current hours: 9 am to 6 pm

Yosemite Valley

Where to Go & What to Do

Experience Yosemite Valley

A great variety of programs, services, and events are available in Yosemite Valley. The following four pages describe these offerings and hours of operation to help you guide your adventure.

Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

Open 9 am to 7 pm and located in Yosemite Village just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #5 and #9), the visitor center offers information, maps, and books.

Explore the new exhibit hall and learn how Yosemite's spectacular landscape was formed, how people have interacted with it through the centuries, how wildlife adapts and survives, and how your national park continues to evolve.

FILM: *SPIRIT OF YOSEMITE*
This inspiring visitor-orientation film provides a stunning overview of Yosemite's splendor. It is shown every 30 minutes, Monday through Saturday between 9:30 am and 6:30 pm, and Sunday noon to 6:30 pm in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center.

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT
Open 9 am to 5 pm.
The exhibit interprets the cultural history of Yosemite's native Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present. Demonstrations of traditional skills are presented. No food or drink permitted.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE
Open 9 am to 5 pm, the store offers traditional American Indian arts and crafts, and books on related subjects.

MUSEUM GALLERY
Open 10 am to noon and 1 pm to 4 pm.

GRANITE FRONTIERS: A CENTURY OF YOSEMITE CLIMBING
Through October 27
The Yosemite Museum hosts an exhibit on the park's climbing history, featuring artifacts, movies, and stories covering the development of rock climbing. The exhibit is sponsored by The Yosemite Fund and was produced by the Yosemite Climbing Association.

The Indian Village of Ahwahnee

Located behind the Yosemite Museum and open daily, the village offers a self-guiding trail brochure and exhibits on Ahwahneechee life.

Indian Village. *NPS Photo*

Yosemite Cemetery

This historic cemetery is located just west of the Yosemite Museum, across the street. People buried here include American Indians and others who played an important role in the development of what is now Yosemite National Park. *Guide to the Yosemite Cemetery* is available at the Valley Visitor Center.

Valley Wilderness Center

Open 7:30 am to 5 pm and located in Yosemite Village next to The Ansel Adams Gallery, the center offers wilderness permits, bear canisters, maps, and guidebooks. Information on pre-trip planning, minimum-impact camping, and Yosemite Wilderness is also available.

Yosemite Theatre-LIVE

Join us for Yosemite Theatre! Shows presented live in the Valley Visitor Center Theater. Hear tales of John Muir, Buffalo Soldier Elizy Boman, or see renowned climber Ron Kauk, as filmed by Sterling Johnson. Tickets cost $8 adults and $4 children 12 and under, and are sold in advance at any tour desk, or at the door (if available). See page 15 for dates and times.

The Ansel Adams Gallery

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center and open daily from 9 am to 6 pm, the gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other fine artists. Handcrafts, books, gifts, digital services, and photography supplies are available. Scheduled activities are listed on the front porch. For more information, call 209/372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com.

GALLERY EXHIBIT
MICHAEL FRYE: CONTRAST
Through July 15. This show includes straight landscapes, high-key images, and nighttime work. Artist's reception at the gallery June 11, 5 to 7 pm.

SALLY OWENS & PENNY OTWELL: INTERPLAY: YOSEMITE PAINTING
Beginning July 16. Owens is best known for her detailed portrayals of natural objects, such as leaves and feathers, in watercolor. Otwell, working primarily in acrylic, employs brush and palette knife to create vivid landscapes. Artist's reception at the gallery July 18, 4 to 6 pm.

Day-Use Parking Information Station

Located in the main visitor parking area, and open 10 am to 4 pm, the station offers information about Yosemite.

LeConte Memorial Lodge

Open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm, and located at shuttle stop #12. LeConte Memorial Lodge, Yosemite's first public visitor center, is operated by the Sierra Club and features a children's corner, library, and a variety of environmental education and evening programs. For more information, call 209/372-4542.

Nature Center at Happy Isles

Open 9:30 am to 5 pm. Designed for nature-exploring families, this center offers natural history exhibits, interactive displays, field guides, and maps. Nearby are short trails through forest, river, and fen. The center is a short walk from shuttle stop #16.

Above Left: Ranger Stroll. *Photo by Bob Roney*

Above Middle: Half Dome. *NPS Photo*

Above Right: Upper Yosemite Fall. *Photo by Victoria Mates*

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

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Yosemite Village

Degnan's Loft
5pm to 9pm

Degnan's Delicatessen
7am to 5pm

Degnan's Cafe
7am to 5pm

Village Grill
11am to 6pm

The Ahwahnee

Dining Room
Breakfast: 7am to 10:30am
Lunch: 11:30am to 3pm
Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm
Sunday Brunch: 7am to 3pm
Appropriate attire respectfully requested for dinner.
Reservations recommended for dinner and Sunday Brunch.
209/372-1489

The Ahwahnee Bar
11am to 11pm

Yosemite Lodge

Coffee Corner
6:30am to 8:30pm

Food Court
Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm
Dinner: 5pm to 8:30pm

Mountain Room Lounge
Monday – Friday
4:30pm to 11pm
Saturday – Sunday
Noon to 11pm

Mountain Room Restaurant
5:30pm to 9:30pm
Reservations taken for 8 or more.
209/372-1281

Cone Stand at the Pool
11am to 6pm, weather permitting

Curry Village

Guest Lounge
8am to 10pm

Coffee Corner
6am to 10pm

Curry Village Bar
Noon to 10pm

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

Pizza Deck
Noon to 10pm

Taqueria
11am to 5pm

Happy Isles Snack Stand
11am to 7pm

BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

Yosemite Village

The Ansel Adams Gallery
9am to 6pm

Yosemite Art & Education Center
9am to 4:30pm *closed for lunch*

Yosemite Bookstore
Inside Yosemite Visitor Center
9am to 7pm

Yosemite Museum Store
9am to 5pm

Valley Wilderness Center
7:30am to 5pm

Village Store
8am to 10pm

Habitat Yosemite
9am to 5pm

Sport Shop
8am to 6pm

Ahwahnee

The Ahwahnee Gift Shop
8am to 10pm

The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop
7am to 10pm

Yosemite Lodge

Gift/Grocery
8am to 10pm

Nature Shop
10am to 8pm

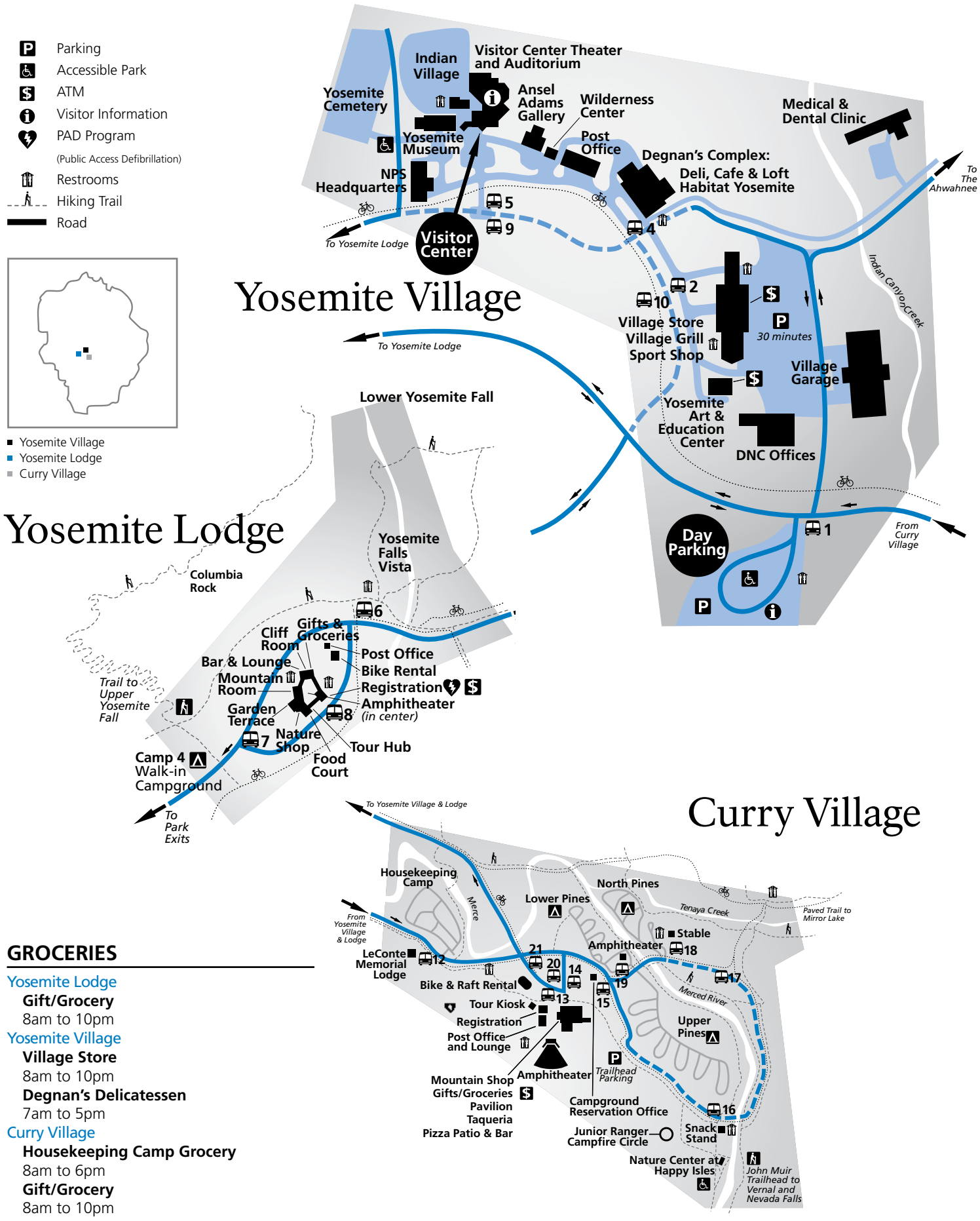
Curry Village

Mountain Shop
8am to 8pm

Curry Village Gift/Grocery
8am to 10pm

Nature Center at Happy Isles

Bookstore
9:30am to 5pm



GROCERIES

Yosemite Lodge

Gift/Grocery
8am to 10pm

Yosemite Village

Village Store
8am to 10pm

Degnan's Delicatessen
7am to 5pm

Curry Village

Housekeeping Camp Grocery
8am to 6pm

Gift/Grocery
8am to 10pm

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

GAS STATION & AUTO SERVICE

Gas outside Yosemite Valley

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

Yosemite Village

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

SHOWERS & LAUNDRY

Curry Village

Curry Village
Showers open 24 hours

Housekeeping Camp
Showers open 7am to 10pm
Laundromat open 8am to 10pm

GENERAL SERVICES

Yosemite Medical Clinic
Emergency care: 24 hours daily
Drop-in and urgent care:
8am to 7pm
Appointments:
8am to 5pm Monday to Friday
Located on Ahwahnee Drive in Yosemite Valley, the clinic provides routine and emergency medical care, 24-hour paramedic/ambulance services, limited pharmacy, lab, x-ray, physical therapy, and Mountain Crisis Services for victims of domestic violence. 209/372-4637

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

Babysitting
Limited babysitting is available for registered guests at Yosemite Lodge and The Ahwahnee. Call front desk or concierge in advance for more information.

Kennel
8am to 4pm
Located at the stable in Yosemite Valley. Dogs must be gentle, over 10 pounds; proof of shots and license are required.
209/372-8348

Internet Access
Internet access is available to park visitors at three locations: Yosemite Lodge, Degnan's Café, and the Mariposa County Library (Girls Club), south of the Yosemite Cemetery. Access at the library is free, requires a sign-up and is available during limited hours Monday through Thursday (check at library for details). At Yosemite Lodge, kiosks and wireless access are available 24 hours for a fee. At Degnan's Café, kiosks are available 7 am to 5 pm for a fee.

YOSEMITE MOUNTAINEERING SCHOOL AND GUIDE SERVICE

Yosemite Mountaineering School and Guide Service offers lessons and guided climbing at all levels, overnight backpacking, and guided day hikes to spectacular areas of Yosemite.

Curry Village
209/372-8344
8:30am to noon, 1pm to 5pm

Tuolumne Meadows
209/372-8435
9am to 5pm

SCHEDULED EVENTS IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

June 11 – July 22, 2008

A DNC Interpreter engages young park visitors during a Wee Wild Ones program. *Photo courtesy of DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite.*

Outdoor Adventures

Join Yosemite Association for these experiences. Call 209/379-2321 or visit www.yosemite.org for more program information and cost.

June 14, Birding Yosemite Valley
June 15, Foresta Birds
June 16-18, North Dome Moonrise Photography Backpack
June 21, Get Lost with a Ranger
June 28, Glacier Point Birding
July 10–13, Glen Aulin and Waterwheel Falls Backpack
July 11–13, Yosemite Flyfishing
July 11–13, Pastel Painting in Tuolumne
July 12, Glacier Point Wildflowers
July 18–20, Half Dome Overnight
July 19-22, Family Camping Jamboree

Adventure Hikes

Join the Yosemite Mountaineering School for extended hikes to popular Valley destinations like Vernal and Nevada Falls. See program dates and times to the right. Call 209/372-8344.

Wednesday Night Art in the Village

Explore Yosemite through the eyes of an artist at the Yosemite Art and Education Center and The Ansel Adams Gallery. Every Thursday evening from 5 pm to 6:30 pm, come join us for refreshments and celebrate and enjoy art in Yosemite.

Habitat Protectors of Yosemite

Fridays, 9 am to 1 pm, Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

Join NPS restoration efforts. Get your hands dirty and help preserve one of America's natural wonders. Volunteers will work on restoration projects and learn about efforts to help restore the Valley. Wear long pants and closed-toe boots. Long sleeves, water, snacks, and sunblock are recommended. Groups larger than ten are required to pre-register. To learn more, please contact Marielle Debree at 209/379-1304 or Marielle_Debree@nps.gov.

Free Art Classes

The Yosemite Art & Education Center offers free classes Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Be prepared for a short walk and bring something to sit on. Bring your own supplies, or buy them at the center, located near the Village Store. Please register in advance.

June 16 – 21, Tom Fong Watercolor – Bold & Free
June 23 – 28, Don Fay Watercolor for Landscape
June 30 – July 5, Pat Hunter Watercolor
July 7 – 12, Patricia Devitt: Painting Yosemite in Acrylic
July 14 – 19, Roy Gould Easy Valley Landscapes
July 21 – 26, Thor Ericson Dramatic Watercolors
July 23 – 28, Jan Schafir Watercolor

Programs printed in **COLOR** are especially for
CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

NPS	**National Park Service**
DNC	**DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.**
AAG	**The Ansel Adams Gallery**
AAC	**American Alpine Club**
SC	**Sierra Club**
YA	**Yosemite Association**
YMS	**Yosemite Mountaineering School**
YF	**Yosemite Fund**
$	**Programs offered for a fee**

Indicates facilities accessible to visitors in wheelchairs. Short, steep inclines may be encountered.

A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Contact 209/372-4726 (TTY) or 209/ 372-0296 to request an interpreter. Advance notice of 2 days is requested.

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

MORNING

Sunday

8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger**
½ hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS)

9:30am **JUNIOR RANGER WALK – TREES**
(except June 15 & 22) 2 hrs. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS)

Discovery Hike – Vernal Fall bridge
3 hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $

10:00am **Ranger Stroll – Merced Meanders**
1½ hr. Shuttle Stop #11 (NPS)

Photography Walk
(June 15, 22 & 29) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN)

Monday

8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger**
½ hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS)

Naturalist Walks: A Yosemite Birdwalk
2½ hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center (YA) $

9:00am **Bike to Hike Tour**
2½ hrs. Curry Village bike stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $

9:30am **JUNIOR RANGER WALK – SMALL WONDERS**
(except June 16 & 23) 2 hrs. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS)

10:00am **Ranger Stroll – Yosemite's First People**
1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS)

Art Class
4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center. See details at left (YA)

Photography Walk
(June 16, 23 & 30) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN)

WEE WILD ONES
45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC)

Tuesday

8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger**
½ hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS)

9:00am **Ranger Hike – Vernal Fall**
3 hrs. One-way strenuous hike, 1½ mi. Shuttle Stop #16 (NPS)

Photography Walk
2 hrs. Limited space. Reservations required Sign up/meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery Conditions permitting (AAG)

9:30am **JUNIOR RANGER WALK – WATER**
(except June 17 & 24) 2 hrs. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS)

Adventure Hike – Vernal/Nevada Falls
6 hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $

10:00am **Ranger Stroll – Trees**
1½ hrs. Ahwahnee Shuttle Stop #3 (NPS)

Art Class
4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center. See details at left (YA)

Wednesday

8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger**
½ hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS)

9:00am **Bike to Hike Tour**
2½ hrs. Curry Village bike stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $

Naturalist Walks: Waterfall Wednesday
2½ hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center (YA) $

9:30am **JUNIOR RANGER WALK – GEOLOGY**
(except June 11, 18 & 25) 2 hrs. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS)

10:00am **Ranger Stroll – Wild about Wildlife**
1½ hrs. Front of Valley Visitor Center (NPS)

Art Class
4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center. See details at left (YA)

Photography Walk
(June 11, 18 & 25) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN)

Thursday

8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger**
½ hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS)

9:00am **Photography Walk**
2 hrs. Limited space. Reservations required Sign up/meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery Conditions permitting (AAG)

9:30am **JUNIOR RANGER WALK AHWAHNEECHEE**
(except June 12, 19 & 26) 2 hrs. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS)

Discovery Hike – Vernal Falls Bridge
3½ hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $

10:00am **Ranger Stroll – Yosemite's Legacy**
1½ hrs. Front of Valley Visitor Center (NPS)

Art Class
4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center. See details at left (YA)

WEE WILD ONES
45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)

11:30am **Photography Walk**
(June 12, 19 & 26) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN)

Friday

8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger**
½ hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS)

9:30am **JUNIOR RANGER WALK – WILDLIFE**
(except June 13, 20 & 27) 2 hrs. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS)

Adventure Hike – Secrets of the Valley
6 hrs. Ahwahnee Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $

10:00am **Ranger Stroll – Geology**
1½ hrs. Front of Valley Visitor Center (NPS)

Art Class
4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center. See details at left (YA)

Photography Walk
(June 13, 20 & 27) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN)

10:30 am **LECONTE MEMORIAL LODGE – WATER IS FUN!!**
(June 20 only) 1 hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC)

Saturday

8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger**
½ hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS)

9:00am **Photography Walk**
2 hrs. Limited space. Reservations required. Sign up/meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery Conditions permitting (AAG)

Bike to Hike Tour
2½ hrs. Curry Village bike stand. Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $

9:30am **JUNIOR RANGER WALK – BEARS**
(except June 14 & 21) 2 hrs. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS)

10:00am **Ranger Stroll – Ahwahneechee Stories and Games**
1½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS)

Art Class
4 hrs. Yosemite Art and Education Center. See details at left (YA)

WEE WILD ONES
45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)

10:30 am **LECONTE MEMORIAL LODGE – HOW TO WRITE MY NATURE JOURNAL** (June 21 only)
1 hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC)

11:30am **Photography Walk**
(June 14, 21 & 28) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN)

	AFTERNOON AND EARLY EVENING	EVENING
Sunday	12:30pm **Ranger Stroll – Bears** 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Camp Amphitheater (NPS) 1:00pm **Photography Walk** (June 15, 22 & 29) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN) 1:30pm **Cliffs and Climbers Hike** 2½ hrs. Curry Village Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $ 2:00pm **Curry Village History Walk** 1½ hours, Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) **KIDS CRAFTS** 1 hr. Crafts for kids age 9-12. Yosemite Art and Education Center. (YA) 2:30 pm **JUNIOR RANGER WALK** 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) 6:00pm **Twilight Stroll** (except July 6) 1 hr. Meets on The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) 6:45pm **WEE WILD ONES** 45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)	7:30pm **JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE** (except June 15 & 22) 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center. Sign up in advance at Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) 8:00pm **Yosemite Theatre – LIVE Return to Balance, High Definition Rock Climbing Film.** 1½ hrs. Visitor Center Theater. Tickets at any Tour Desk or door $ (DNC) **LeConte Memorial Lodge** June 15: **Birds of Yosemite** June 22: **Hiking Half Dome** June 29: **Mono Lake: Yosemite's Eastern Neighbor** July 6: **Edward Abbey: Keep It Like It Was** July 13: **Shattered Air: Lightning Episode on Half Dome** July 20: **YNP: History, Architecture & Landscapes** 1 hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) 8:30pm **Ranger Program** 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) **Evening Program** 1 hr., Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC) **Evening Program** 1 hr., Curry Village Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC/APN/CANON) 9:00 pm **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE VALLEY** 60-90 minutes. Tickets/info at any tour desk. $ (DNC)
Monday	12:30pm **Ranger Stroll – Bears** 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) 1:00pm **Photography Walk** (June 16, 23 & 30) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN) 2:00pm **Curry Village History Walk** 1½ hours Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) **Discovery Hike – Sentinel Dome & Taft Point.** 4 hrs. Curry Village Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $ 2:30 pm **JUNIOR RANGER WALK** 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) 6:45pm **WEE WILD ONES** 45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC)	7:30pm **JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE** (except June 16 & 23) 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center. Sign up in advance at Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) 8:00pm **Yosemite Theatre – LIVE Yosemite Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Soldier, 1904.** (except June 23) 1½ hrs. Visitor Center Theater, Tickets at any Tour Desk or at door $ (DNC) 8:30pm **Ranger Program** 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) **Evening Program** 1 hr., Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC) **Evening Program** 1 hr., Curry Village Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC/APN/CANON)
Tuesday	12:00pm **Yosemite Forum –** Formation of rock fractures and how they affect the Yosemite landscape (July 8 only) 1. hr. Yosemite Valley Visitor Center Auditorium (NPS) 12:30pm **Ranger Stroll – Bears** 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) 1:00pm **CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE** 1 hr. Near Curry Village. Check tour desk for tickets/info. (DNC) $ 2:30 pm **JUNIOR RANGER WALK** 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) 6:00pm **Twilight Stroll** 1 hr. Meets on The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) 6:45pm **WEE WILD ONES** 45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)	7:30pm **JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE** (except June 17 & 24) 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center. Sign up in advance at Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) 8:00pm **Yosemite Theatre LIVE: John Muir is Back – and Boy, is he Ticked Off!** 1½ hrs, Visitor Center Theater, Tickets/info at any tour desk or at door $ (DNC) 8:30pm **Ranger Program** 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) **Evening Program** 1 hr., Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC) **Evening Program** 1 hr., Curry Village Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC) 9:00 pm **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE VALLEY** 60-90 minutes. Tickets/info at any tour desk. $ (DNC)
Wednesday	12:30pm **Ranger Stroll – Bears** 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) 1:00pm **NPS Open House** (June 25 only) 4 hrs. Come and learn about park improvement efforts. Valley Visitor Center Auditorium. (NPS) **Photography Walk** (June 11, 18 & 25) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN) 2:00pm **Curry Village History Walk** 1½ hours Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) **Discovery Hike – Vernal Falls Bridge** 3½ hrs. Curry Village Mountaineering School. Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $ 2:30 pm **JUNIOR RANGER WALK** 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) 5:00 pm **Wednesday Night Art in the Village** 1½ hrs. Yosemite Art & Education Center & The Ansel Adams Gallery. Details at left (YA/AAG) 6:00pm **FAMILY STROLL** (except June 11th) 1 hr. meet near Housekeeping Camp front desk (DNC) 6:45pm **WEE WILD ONES** 45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)	7:30pm **JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE** (except June 11, 18 & 25) 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center. Sign up in advance at Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) 8:00pm **Yosemite Theatre LIVE: Conversations with a Tramp.** 1½ hrs, Visitor Center Theater, Tickets/info at any tour desk or at door $ (DNC) 8:30pm **Ranger Program** 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) **Evening Program** 1 hr., Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC) **Evening Program** 1 hr., Curry Village Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC/APN/CANON) 9:00 pm **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE VALLEY** 60-90 minutes. Tickets/info at any tour desk. $ (DNC)
Thursday	12:30pm **Ranger Stroll – Bears** 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) 1:00pm **CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE** 1 hr. Near Curry Village. Check tour desk for tickets/info. (DNC) $ 1:30pm **Cliffs and Climbers Hike** 2½ hrs. Curry Village Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $ 2:00pm **Curry Village History Walk** 1½ hrs. Meet at Curry Village Amphitheater 2:30 pm **JUNIOR RANGER WALK** 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) **Photography Walk** (June 12, 19 & 26) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN) 4:30pm **LeConte Memorial Lodge – An Inconvenient Truth** (June 12, June 19, and July 17 only) 1 hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) 6:00pm **FAMILY STROLL** (except July 3) 1 hr. Meet near Housekeeping Camp front desk (DNC) 6:45pm **WEE WILD ONES** 45 min. Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC)	7:30pm **JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE** (except June 12, 19 & 26) 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center. Sign up in advance at Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) 8:00pm **Yosemite Theatre LIVE: John Muir is Back – and Boy, is he Ticked Off!** 1½ hrs, Visitor Center Theater, Tickets/info at any tour desk or at door $ (DNC) **LeConte Memorial Lodge** June 19: **Convenient Solutions to Global Warming** 1 hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) 8:30pm **Ranger Program** 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) **Evening Program** 1 hr., Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC) **Evening Program** 1 hr., Curry Village Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC) 9:00 pm **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE VALLEY** (except July 3) 60-90 minutes. Tickets/info at any tour desk. $ (DNC)
Friday	12:30pm **Ranger Stroll – Bears** 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) 1:00pm **Photography Walk** (June 13, 20 & 27) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN) 2:30 pm **JUNIOR RANGER WALK** 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) 6:00pm **Twilight Stroll** (except July 4) 1 hr. Meets on The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) 6:45pm **WEE WILD ONES** 45 min. (Except June 13 and July 4) Stories & activities for kids 6 & under. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC)	7:30pm **JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE** (except June 13, 20 & 27) 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center. Sign up in advance at Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) **OLD FASHIONED 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION!** (July 4th only) 1½ hours, Curry Village Amphitheater & 8:00pm **Yosemite Theatre – LIVE Return to Balance** High Definition Rock Climbing Film. (Except June 13th) 1½ hrs. Visitor Center Theater. Tickets at any Tour Desk or door $ (DNC) **LeConte Memorial Lodge** June 13: **Along the John Muir Trail** June 20: **Getting it Right by Writing It! Helping Kids to Write A Nature Journal** June 27 and July 18: **Climbing Yosemite Walls: Demonstration & Slides** July 4: **Henry David Thoreau: In Wildness is the Preservation of the World** July 11: **Yosemite in the 1960s** 1 hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) 8:30pm **Ranger Program** 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) **Film – Ansel Adams** 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater. **Evening Program** (Except July 4th) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater, check local postings for topic. (DNC/APN/CANON) 9:00 pm **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE VALLEY** (except June 13 and July 4) 60-90 minutes. Tickets/info at any tour desk. $ (DNC)\
Saturday	12:30pm **Ranger Stroll – Bears** 1½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) 1:00pm **Discovery Hike – Four Mile Trail to Union Point** 3½ hrs. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater. Tickets/info at any tour desk (YMS) $ 2:00pm **Curry Village History Walk** 1½ hours, Mt at Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) 2:30pm **JUNIOR RANGER WALK** 1 hr. Happy Isles Nature Center (NPS) **Photography Walk** (June 14, 21 & 28) 2 hrs. Limited space. Front of Valley Visitor Center (Canon/APN) 3:00pm **Fine Print Viewing** 1 hr. Very limited space Sign up in advance inside The Ansel Adams Gallery (AAG) 4:00pm **CHILDREN'S STORYTIME** ½ hr. For children 7 and under (must be accompanied by an adult). Front of The Ansel Adams Gallery (AAG) 6:00pm **Twilight Stroll** 1 hr. Meets on The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) **CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE** 1 hr. Near Curry Village. Check tour desk for tickets/info. (DNC) $	8:00pm **LeConte Memorial Lodge** June 14: **Across the Range: Hike from Sequoia to Mt. Whitney** June 21: **Global Warming: What we can tell children** June 28: **Water & The California Dream** July 5: **Mary Austin: The Land of Little Rain** July 12: **Along the John Muir Trail** July 19: **Sierra Nevada Glaciation** 1 hr. Shuttle Stop #12 (SC) 8:30pm **Ranger Evening Program** 1 hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater (NPS) **Rock Climbing Program** 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (AAC) **Evening Program** 1 hr. Curry Village Amph Check local postings for topic (DNC/APN/CANON) 9:00 pm **STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE VALLEY** 1-1½ hrs. Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) $

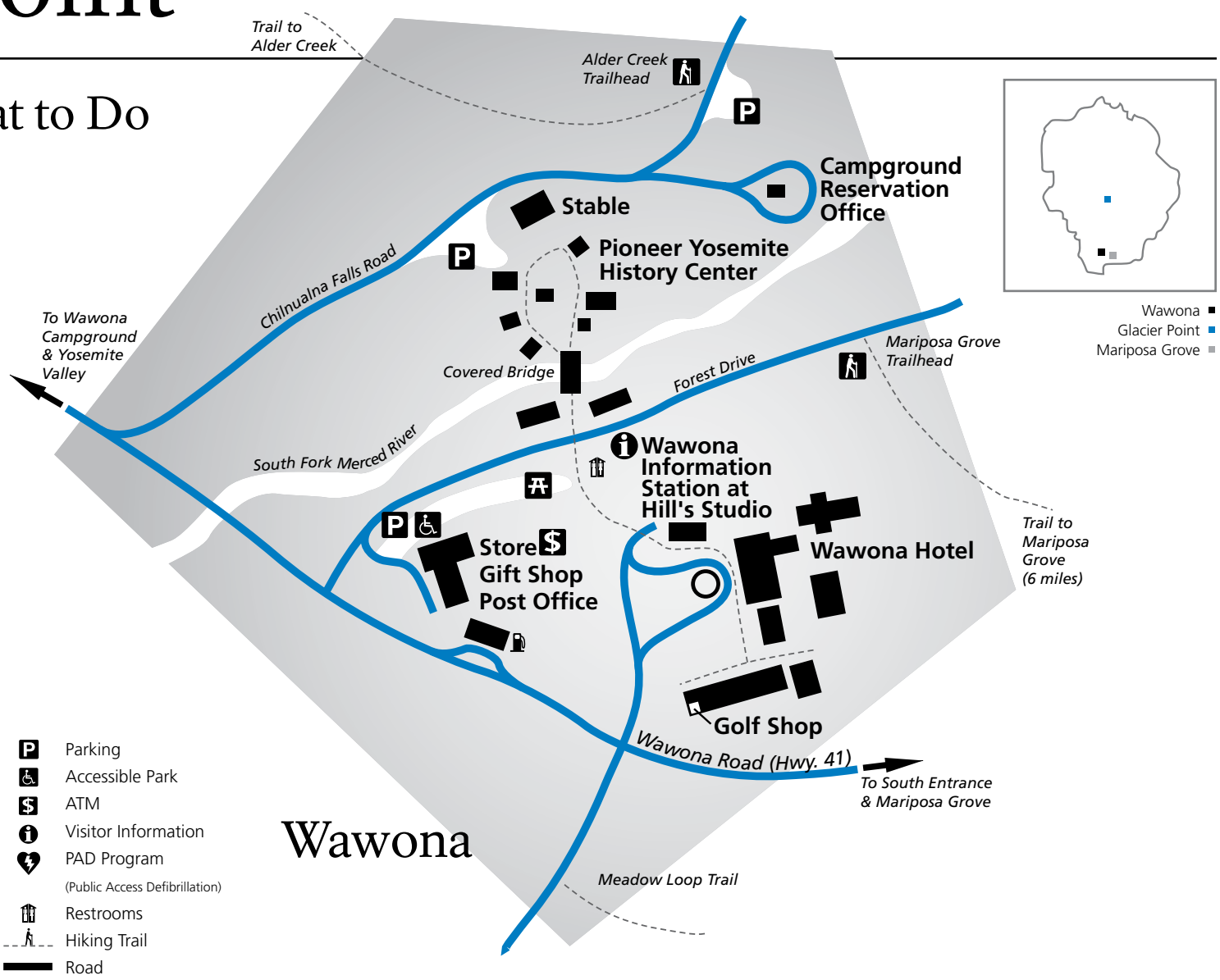
Wawona, Mariposa Grove and Glacier Point

Where to Go & What to Do

Sequoias. *Photo by Christine White Loberg*

Explore History
Discover Giant Trees
Find Amazing Vistas

These park areas offer endless opportunities for amazing experiences.



Wawona & Mariposa Grove

Evening Programs

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

Ranger Evening Programs

Join in a park tradition by joining a ranger for an hour of stories, legends, and fun. Topics vary each night. See page 17 for dates, times, and locations.

Wawona Information Station at Hill's Studio

Open 8:30 am to 5 pm (Fridays and Saturdays to 6 pm), the station offers information about park activities, Wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. Located on the grounds of the Wawona Hotel, Hill's Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park at the Wawona Store parking area and follow the path up the hill. For more information call 209/375-9531.

Pioneer Yosemite History Center

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

LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS
See Page 17 for dates and times.

EXPERIENCE HORSE-DRAWN TRAVEL
Travel into history by taking a 10-minute horse-drawn stage ride. Tickets may be purchased at the Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. $3/adults and $2/child (ages 3-12).

BLACKSMITH SHOP Smell the burning coal, hear the ring of the hammer on the anvil, and watch a demonstration of the ancient art of blacksmithing.

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.

Getting to Mariposa Grove

Allow 1½ hours driving time to reach the grove from the Valley. Cars are prohibited beyond the grove parking lot. The access road to the grove may close intermittently due to limited parking.

Trailers are prohibited on the Mariposa Grove Road. Private vehicles longer than 25 feet are not permitted on this road.

FREE MARIPOSA GROVE & WAWONA SHUTTLE
A shuttle stops at the Wawona Store, South Entrance, and Mariposa Grove. Visitors may park at the Wawona Store to board the bus. Shuttles operate beginning at 9 am, and the last shuttle leaves the grove at 6 pm, or after the last tour. Please use this free bus service to help reduce congestion and parking delays.

FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE BETWEEN WAWONA AND YOSEMITE VALLEY
Bus departs daily from the Wawona Hotel at 8:30 am and from the Wawona Store at 8:35 am. Return trip departs from Yosemite Lodge at 3:30pm.

Mariposa Grove Museum

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

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.

Dogs or bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Grove

Distance & Elevation

Grizzly Giant
Distance from trailhead:
0.8 mile / 1.3km
Elevation Gain: 400ft / 122m

Grove Museum
Distance from trailhead:
2.1 miles / 3.5km
Elevation Gain: 800ft / 292m

Fallen Tunnel Tree
Distance from trailhead:
2.5 miles / 4.0km
Elevation Gain: 1,000ft / 305m

Wawona Point
Distance from trailhead:
3.0 miles / 4.8km
Elevation Gain: 1,200ft / 438m

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

Geology Hut. *Photo courtesy Yosemite Research Library*

Glacier Point

Ranger Walks

Join a ranger for a walk to discover Yosemite's unique, tucked-away places. See a pioneer cabin near a beautiful meadow, explore the red fir forest, or hike to a seldom-seen waterfall.

Evening Programs

Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening shadows in Yosemite Valley and the alpenglow on the Sierra high country, or come for the sunset and stay for the moonrise. Stargazing programs are offered, as well.

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

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Wawona

Wawona Hotel Dining Room
Breakfast: 7:30am to 10am
Lunch: 11:30am to 1:30pm
Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm
Saturday BBQ: 5pm to 7pm
also on Friday, July 4
Sunday Brunch: 10:30am to 1:30pm
on June 15 and Sundays in July
Reservations taken for 6 or more.
209/375-1425

Glacier Point

Snack Stand
9am to 4pm

GROCERIES

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop
8am to 8pm

GIFTS & APPAREL

Wawona

Golf Shop & Snack Stand
8:30am to 6pm
Wawona Store & Pioneer Shop
8am to 8pm
Wawona Information Station at Hill's Studio
8:30am to 5pm (Fridays and Saturdays to 6pm)

Glacier Point

Gift Shop
9am to 6pm

Mariposa Grove

Mariposa Grove Museum
10am to 4pm
Big Trees Gift Shop
9am to 5pm

POST OFFICE

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

GAS STATION

Wawona Gas Station
9am to 6pm Diesel & propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

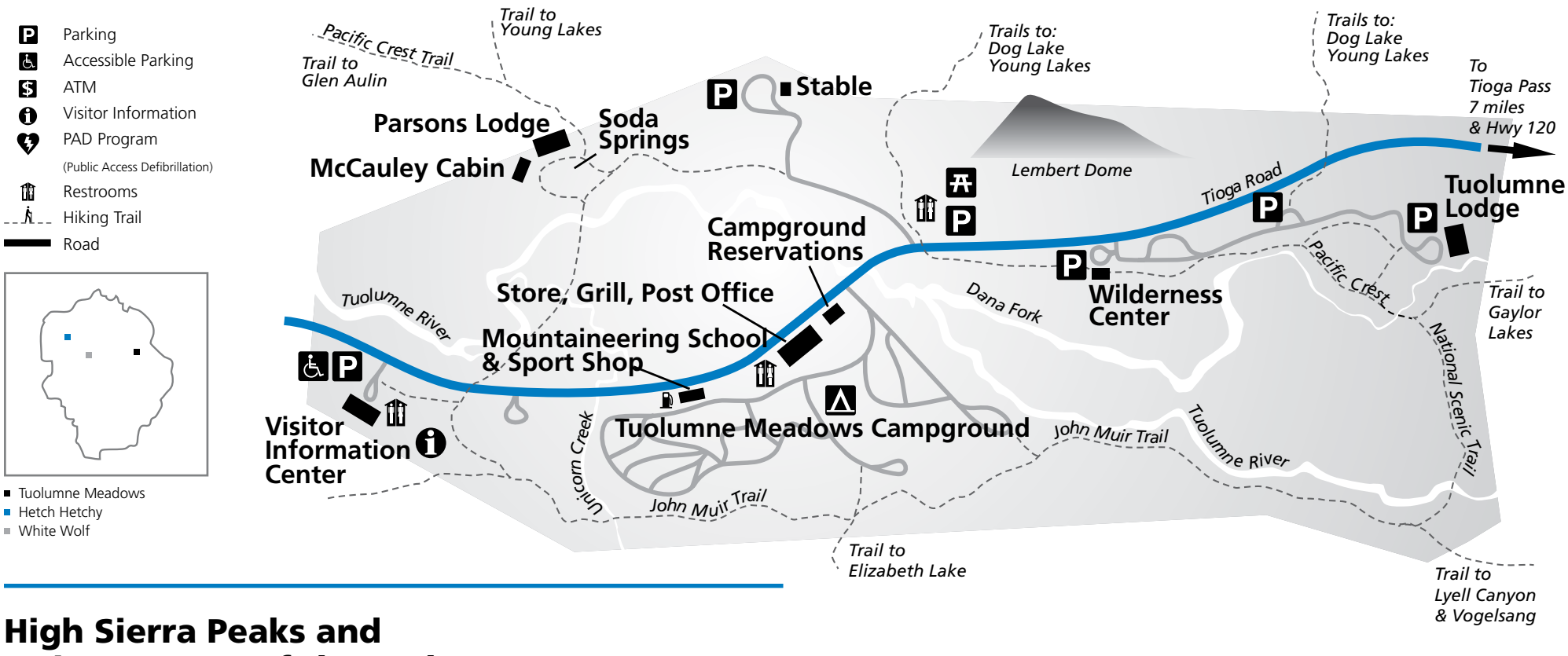
GOLF

Wawona Hotel Golf Course
8 am to 6 pm weather and conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par 35 course

	WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE	GLACIER POINT
Sunday	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** ¾ hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS) 9:00am **JUNIOR RANGERS** 2½ hrs. Meet at Wawona Campground B Loop Amphitheater (NPS) 10:00am **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm – 5:00pm **Blacksmith Demonstration** Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) 10:00am – Noon / 2:00pm – 4:00pm **Horse-Drawn Stage Rides** 10 min. Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) $ 1:00pm **A Glimpse of the Wawona Miwok Indians** (7/20 only) 1 hr. George Anderson's cabin, Pioneer Yosemite Hist. Ctr. (NPS) 2:00pm **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 6:00pm **Evening Stroll with a Ranger** 1 hr. Wawona Hotel fountain (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire Talk with a Ranger** (beginning June 29) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	11:00am **Hike to the Hidden Illilouette Fall** 3½ hrs. Moderately difficult Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop (NPS) 2:00pm **Ranger Walk – Cliffs and Domes** (July 6, 13, & 20 only) 2 hrs. Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire** (July 6, 13, & 20 only) 1 hr. Bridalveil Creek Campground, loop C (NPS)
Monday	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** ¾ hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS) 9:00am **JUNIOR RANGERS** 2½ hrs. Join a ranger for fun discoveries in nature. Meet at the Wawona Hotel fountain (NPS) 10:00am **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** (except July 14) 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire Talk with a Ranger** (beginning June 23) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) 9:00 pm **STARRY SKIES OVER WAWONA** (except June 16th) 60-90 minutes. Tickets/info at any tour desk. $ (DNC)	10:00am **Ranger Wildflower Walk to McGurk Meadow** 2 hrs. Meet at phone booth at Bridalveil Campground (NPS) 7:45pm **Sunset Ranger Talk** (July 7, 14, & 21 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) 8:00pm **Sunset Ranger Talk** (June 16, 23, & 30 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS)
Tuesday	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** ¾ hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS) 9:00am **JUNIOR RANGERS** 2½ hrs. Join a ranger for fun discoveries in nature. Meet at the Wawona Hotel fountain (NPS) 10:00am **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 2:00pm **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 5:30pm **Vintage Music of Yosemite** 4 hrs. Live music with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) 7:30pm **Evening Ranger Program** 1 hr. The Redwoods In Yosemite meeting room on Chilnualna Falls Rd. (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire Talk with a Ranger** (beginning June 24) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	2:00pm **Ranger Walk – Cliffs and Domes** (July 1, 8, 15, & 22 only) 2 hrs. Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road (NPS) 7:45pm **Sunset Ranger Talk** (July 1, 8, 15, & 22 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire** (July 1, 8, 15, & 22 only) 1 hr. Bridalveil Creek Campground, loop C (NPS)
Wednesday	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** ¾ hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS) **Ranger Hike to Chilnualna Falls** 6 hrs. 8 mi. round trip, moderate to strenuous. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water, lunch, and sunscreen. Meet at trailhead parking (NPS) 9:00am **JUNIOR RANGERS** 2½ hrs. Join a ranger for fun discoveries in nature. Meet at the Wawona Hotel fountain (NPS) 10:00am **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 2:00pm – 4:00pm **Horse-Drawn Stage Rides** 10 min. Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) $ 2:00pm – 5:00pm **Blacksmith Demonstration** Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) 2:00pm **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 5:30pm **Vintage Music of Yosemite** 4 hrs. Live music with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) 8:00pm **Campfire Talk with a Ranger** (beginning June 25) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	2:00pm **Ranger Walk – Cliffs and Domes** (July 2, 9, & 16 only) 2 hrs. Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road (NPS) 7:45pm **Sunset Ranger Talk** (July 2, 9, & 16 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS)
Thursday	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** ¾ hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS) 9:00am **JUNIOR RANGERS** 2½ hrs. Join a ranger for fun discoveries in nature. Meet at the Wawona Hotel fountain (NPS) 10:00am **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 10:00am – Noon / 2:00pm – 4:00pm **Horse-Drawn Stage Rides** 10 min. Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) $ 10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm – 5:00pm **Blacksmith Demonstration** Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) 2:00pm **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 5:30pm **Vintage Music of Yosemite** 4 hrs. Live music with pianist/singer Tom Bopp Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) 8:00pm **Campfire Talk with a Ranger** (beginning June 26) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	2:00pm **Ranger Walk – Cliffs and Domes** (July 3, 10, & 17 only) 2 hrs. Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire** (July 3, 10, & 17 only) 1 hr. Bridalveil Creek Campground, loop C (NPS) 8:15pm **Full Moon Rising** (July 17 only) ½ hr. Meet at Glacier Point Railing (NPS)
Friday	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** ¾ hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS) 9:00am **JUNIOR RANGERS** 2½ hrs. Meet at Wawona Campground B Loop Amphitheater (NPS) 9:30am **Wawona History Walk** 1½ hrs. Wawona Hotel fountain (NPS) 10:00am **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 10:00am – Noon **Visit Yosemite's Past** (July 4 only) Yosemite's history comes to life at the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS) 10:00am – Noon / 2:00pm – 4:00pm **Horse-Drawn Stage Rides** (except the afternoon of July 4) 10 min. Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) $ 10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm – 5:00pm **Blacksmith Demonstration** (except the afternoon of July 4) Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) 2:00pm **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) **Old-Fashioned 4th of July Celebration** Speeches, games, races, & prizes! (July 4 only) 2 hrs. Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) 5:30pm **Vintage Music of Yosemite** 4 hrs. Live music with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) 8:00pm **Campfire Talk with a Ranger** (beginning June 27) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	2:00pm **Ranger Walk – Cliffs and Domes** (July 4, 11, & 18 only) 2 hrs. Taft Point/Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road (NPS) 7:45pm **Sunset Ranger Talk** (July 4, 11, & 18 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) 8:00pm **Sunset Ranger Talk** (June 13, 20, & 27 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) 8:30pm **Stars Over Yosemite** (Begins June 27) Glacier Point Amphitheater Cancel if overcast (NPS)
Saturday	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** ¾ hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS) 8:30am **Wawona Nature Walk** 2 hrs. The Redwoods In Yosemite meeting room on Chilnualna Falls Rd. (NPS) 9:00am **JUNIOR RANGERS** 2½ hrs. Meet at Wawona Campground B Loop Amphitheater (NPS) 10:00am **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 10:00am – Noon / 2:00pm – 4:00pm **Horse-Drawn Stage Rides** 10 min. Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) $ 10:00am – 1:00pm / 2:00pm – 5:00pm **Blacksmith Demonstration** Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) 1:00pm **A Glimpse of the Wawona Miwok Indians** (7/19 only) 1 hr. George Anderson's cabin, Pioneer Yosemite Hist. Ctr. (NPS) 2:00pm **Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove** 1½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS) 5:30pm **Vintage Music of Yosemite** 4 hrs. Live music with pianist/singer Tom Bopp. Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) 8:00pm **Camp fire Talk with a Ranger** (beginning June 28) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	10:00am **Ranger Wildflower Walk to McGurk Meadow** (July 5, 12, & 19 only) 2 hrs. Meet at phone booth at Bridalveil Campground (NPS) 7:45pm **Sunset Ranger Talk** (July 5, 12, & 19 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) 8:00pm **Sunset Ranger Talk** (June 14, 21, & 28 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing, overlooking the Valley (NPS) 8:30pm **Stars Over Yosemite** (Begins June 28) Glacier Point Amphitheater Cancel if overcast (NPS)

Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, Crane Flat, and Hetch Hetchy

Where to Go & What to Do



High Sierra Peaks and Quiet Corners of the Park

These areas of the park offer amazing vistas and opportunities for solitude. Hiking, backpacking, and ranger-led programs are popular activities here.

Tuolumne Meadows

Cathedral Peak. *Photo by Christine White Loberg*

Tuolumne Meadows

Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center

Open 9 am to 5 pm (6 pm beginning June 21). Park orientation, trail information, books, maps, and displays. Phone 209/372-0263.

Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin and Soda Springs

Two trails, both flat and ¾-mile long, lead to this historic area accessible only by walking. Parsons Memorial Lodge is open beginning late June from 10 am to 4 pm. Soda Springs are small naturally carbonated springs that attract birds and deer, especially at sunrise and sunset.

Parsons Memorial Lodge Summer Series

These inspiring programs begin at 2 pm and last approximately one hour, unless noted otherwise. Allow 30 minutes walking time to Parsons Memorial Lodge from either Lembert Dome parking area or the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. Admission is free.

Saturday, July 19
Lightning: What Strikes Our Fancy
Slide presentation by Dr. Jan van Wagtendonk, Research Scientist, USGS Field Station

Sunday, July 20
Bats, Birds, and Butterflies: Illuminating the High Sierra through Stories
Performance by Ane Carla Rovetta, naturalist, illustrator, and storyteller

Free Olmsted Point/Tuolumne Meadows/Tioga Pass Shuttle

Free shuttle service is available during the summer along the Tioga Road from Olmsted Point to Tioga Pass. Due to limited trailhead parking, use of the free shuttle is strongly advised. Shuttles travel between Tuolumne Meadows Lodge and Olmsted Point with stops along the Tioga Road, including Tuolumne Meadows Campground and the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. The shuttle also makes morning and afternoon runs to Tioga Pass.

Service begins at Tuolumne Meadows Lodge at 7 am. Shuttles arrive at approximately 30-minute intervals between 7 am and 7 pm. The last shuttle leaves Olmsted Point at 6 pm. Schedules are subject to change. Please check route maps at the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center or shuttle stops for details.

Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center

Open 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. Located just south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadow Lodge, at shuttle stop #3. The center offers trail information, Wilderness permits, bear canister rental, maps, and guidebooks.

Just for Kids

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

Ranger Walks

Join a ranger to explore new areas and learn about geology, birds, flowers, history, the Tuolumne River, and more. These walks range from one to eight hours and, except for the long walks, are fairly easy. On Fridays end your day with a Music Walk. This easy stroll will inspire and delight.

Evening Activities

Join a ranger for campfire, songs, storytelling, and answers to some of your questions about Yosemite. Program topics vary, and are posted at the campground, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. End your day with a Star Program or Night Prowl. Bring a pad to sit on for the Star Program and dress warmly. Sign up in advance for the Night Prowl at the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center.

Big Oak Flat

Big Oak Flat Information Station

Open 8 am to 4:30 pm. The station offers general park information, books, and maps. It also provides wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, and backpacking information.

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 (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

This cluster of about 25 sequoias is near Crane Flat at the intersection of Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from Crane Flat into the grove. Now closed to cars, this path drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill return. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guiding nature trail.

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

Tuolumne Meadows

Tuolumne Meadows Grill
Sunday – Thursday:
8am to 5pm
Friday – Saturday:
8am to 6pm

Tuolumne Meadows Lodge Dining Room
Breakfast: 7am to 9am
Dinner: 5:50pm to 8pm
Meals are served family style, and reservations are required.
Call 209/372-8413

White Wolf

White Wolf Lodge
Opens June 13
Breakfast: 7:30am to 9:30am
Take-out Lunch: noon to 2pm
Dinner: 6pm to 8pm
Reservations recommended.
Call 209/372-8416.

GROCERIES

Tuolumne Meadows

Store
9am to 6pm

Crane Flat

Store
8am to 8pm

White Wolf

Camp Store
8am to 8pm

GIFTS & APPAREL

Tuolumne Meadows

Mountaineering School and Sport Shop
9am to 5pm

Tuolumne Meadows Bookstore
9am to 5pm (6pm beginning June 21)
Inside the Tuolumne Meadow Visitor Center

Tuolumne Meadows Store
9am to 6pm

Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center
7:30am to 5pm

POST OFFICE

Tuolumne Meadows

Post Office
Monday – Friday: 9am to 5pm
Saturday: 9am to 1pm

GAS STATION & ATM

Tuolumne Meadows
Diesel & propane available.
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Crane Flat
9am to 6pm
Diesel & propane available.
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Hetch Hetchy. *Photo by Clarisa Flores*

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

	TUOLUMNE MEADOWS	WHITE WOLF	CRANE FLAT / HODGDON MEADOW / HETCH HETCHY
Sunday	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** (Beginning June 22 if campground open) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup (NPS) 10:00am **Ranger Hike – Lembert Dome** (Beginning June 22) 3 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 3 miles Dog Lake Parking shuttle stop #2 Bring snacks & water (NPS) 11:00am **Tenaya Lake Walk and Clean-up with Climber Ron Kauk** (Beginning June 22; except July 20) 2 hrs. East end of Tenaya Lake shuttle stop #9 (NPS) 2:00pm **Parsons Summer Series Program** (July 20 only) 1 hr. Details at left (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire*** (Beginning June 22*) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)	9:00am **Ranger Hike – North Dome** (except June 15 & 22) 7 hrs. Strenuous 11-mile hike. Porcupine Creek trailhead on Tioga Road, 1.2 miles east of Porcupine Flat Campground. Bring water, lunch, & raingear (NPS) 8:30pm **Ranger Campfire Program** (July 6, 13 & 20 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Campground Amphitheater (NPS) 9:45pm **Starry, Starry Night** (July 6, 13 & 20 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Campground entrance (NPS)	9:00am **Ranger Talk – Giant Sequoias** (except June 15 & 22) 3 hrs. Informal talks in the Tuolumne Grove (NPS) 3:00pm **JUNIOR RANGERS** 1½ hrs. Hodgdon Meadow Campground kiosk (NPS) 8:30pm **Ranger Campfire Program** (July 13 & 20 only) 1 hr. Crane Flat campfire circle (NPS)
Monday	7:00am **Photographing Tuolumne** (Beginning June 23) 2 hrs. Sign up at Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center 209/372-0263 (NPS) 10:00am **Ranger Walk – Domes and Meadows** (Beginning June 23) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, Road marker T-29 (NPS) 2:00pm **Ranger Walk – Indians in the High Country** (Beginning June 30) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome Picnic Area (NPS) 7:00pm **CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS*** (Beginning June 30*) 1 hr. Conness Circle, Loop C in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire*** (Beginning June 23*) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** (July 7, 14 & 21 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS) 10:00am **Ranger Walk – Bears** (except June 16 & 23) 1½ hrs. White Wolf Campground entrance (NPS) 7:30pm **Twilight Stroll** (except June 16 & 23) 1½ hrs. White Wolf Campground entrance (NPS)	9:30am **Ranger Hike – Hetch Hetchy** (except June 16) 2½ hrs. O'Shaughnessy Dam. Bring water (NPS) 7:00pm **CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS** (July 7, 14 & 21 only) 45 min. Crane Flat campfire circle (NPS)
Tuesday	9:00am **Ranger Hike – Tuolumne Fall** (Beginning June 24) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 8 miles Meet at Lembert Dome Picnic Area. Bring lunch, water & raingear (NPS) 10:00am **Botanical Walk with Cathy Rose** 2 hrs. **July 1:** **Parsons Lodge** Meet at Tuolumne Visitor Center shuttle stop #6 **July 8:** **Pothole Dome** shuttle stop #8, Road marker T-29 **July 15:** **Ellery Lake** Meet at dam on east end of Ellery Lake outside Tioga Pass **July 22:** **Bennettville** Meet at junction of Saddlebag Lake Road and Tioga Pass Road (NPS) 2:00pm **JUNIOR RANGERS** (Beginning June 24) 2 hrs. Ages 7-12. Lembert Dome Picnic Area (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire*** (Beginning June 24*) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** (except June 17 & 24) 1 hr. White Wolf Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS) 10:00am **FAMILY ADVENTURE WALK** (July 8, 15 & 22 only) 2 hrs. White Wolf Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** (except June 17 & 24) 1 hr. Crane Flat campfire circle. Bring a mug (NPS) 9:00am **Ranger Talk – Giant Sequoias** (except June 17 & 24) 3 hrs. Informal talks in the Tuolumne Grove (NPS)
Wednesday	7:30am **Ranger Walk – Birds** (Beginning June 25) 2½ hrs. Lembert Dome Picnic Area. Binoculars available (NPS) 8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** (Beginning June 25 if campground open) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup (NPS) 10:00am **Ranger Walk – Geology** (Beginning June 25) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, Road marker T-29 (NPS) 1:30pm **Ranger Walk – Along the River** (Beginning June 25) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome Picnic Area (NPS) 7:00pm **CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS*** (Beginning June 25*) 1 hr. Conness Circle, Loop C in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire*** (Beginning June 25) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) 9:30pm **Ranger Talk – Stars** (Beginning June 25) 1 hr. Lembert Dome Picnic Area. Bring pad to sit on & dress warmly (NPS)	7:30am **Birding with a Ranger** (June 25 & July 2 only) 2 hrs. White Wolf Campground entrance. Binoculars available (NPS) 7:00pm **CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS** (July 2, 9 & 16 only) 45 min. White Wolf Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	10:00am **JUNIOR RANGERS** (July 2, 9 & 16 only) 1½ hrs. Crane Flat Campfire Circle (NPS) 7:30pm **Twilight Stroll** (July 9 & 16 only) 1½ hrs. Hodgdon Meadow Group Campground (NPS)
Thursday	10:00am **Ranger Walk – History** (Beginning June 26) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Visitor Center shuttle stop #6 (NPS) **JUNIOR RANGERS** (Beginning June 26) 2 hrs. Ages 7-12. Lembert Dome Picnic Area (NPS) 2:00pm **Ranger Walk – Lake Exploration** (Beginning June 26) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, Road marker T-29 (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire*** (Beginning June 26*) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) 9:15pm **Ranger Walk – Night Prowl** (Beginning June 26) 1¼ hrs. Sign up at Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center 209/372-0263 (NPS)	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** (July 3, 10 & 17 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Campground Amphitheater. Bring a mug (NPS) 8:30pm **Ranger Campfire Program** (July 10 & 17 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	9:30am **History & the Big Trees** (except June 12 & 19) 3 hrs. Informal ranger talks in the Merced Grove (NPS) 8:30pm **Ranger Campfire Program** (July 10 & 17 only) 1 hr. Crane Flat campfire circle (NPS)
Friday	8:00am **Coffee with a Ranger** (Beginning June 27 if campground open) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup (NPS) 10:00am **Ranger Walk – Bears and Other Wildlife** (Beginning June 27) 1½ hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Campground Reservation Office (NPS) 2:00pm **Ranger Walk – Wildflowers** (Beginning June 27) 2 hrs. Lembert Dome Picnic Area (NPS) 6:30pm **Ranger Walk – Music and Mountains** (Beginning June 27) 1¼ hrs. Lembert Dome Picnic Area (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire*** (Beginning June 27) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)	3:00pm **JUNIOR RANGERS** (July 4, 11 & 18 only) 2 hrs. White Wolf Campground Amphitheater (NPS) 8:30pm **Ranger Campfire Program** (July 4, 11 & 18 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	8:30pm **Ranger Campfire Program** (July 4, 11 & 18 only) 1 hr. Crane Flat campfire circle (NPS) 9:45pm **Starry, Starry Night** (except June 20 & 27) 1¼ hrs. Crane Flat area. Limited to 30 people. Sign-up required; Call 209/379-1899 (NPS)
Saturday	9:15am **Ranger Hike – Mono Pass** (Beginning June 28) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 8 miles Meet at Mono Pass trailhead. Bring lunch, water & raingear (NPS) 10:00am **Ranger Walk – Bennettville Exploration** (Beginning June 28) 2 hrs. Moderate. Junction Campground bridge, via Saddlebag Road, east of Tioga Pass Entrance Station (NPS) **JUNIOR RANGERS** (Beginning June 21) 2 hrs. Ages 7-12. Lembert Dome Picnic Area (NPS) 2:00pm **Parsons Summer Series Program** (July 19 only) 1 hr. Details at left (NPS) 5:30pm **Ranger Walk – Yosemite's Wilderness** (Beginning June 21) 1½ hrs. Dog Lake Parking shuttle stop #2 (NPS) 8:00pm **Campfire*** (Beginning June 21*) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) 9:30pm **Ranger Talk – Stars** (Beginning June 28) 1 hr. Lembert Dome Picnic Area. Bring pad to sit on and dress warmly (NPS)	10:00am **Ranger Stroll – Wildflowers** (except June 14 & 21) 2 hrs. White Wolf Campground entrance (NPS) 1:00pm **Ranger Walk – Lukens Lake** (July 5, 12 & 19 only) 3 hrs. White Wolf Campground entrance. Bring water (NPS) 8:30pm **Ranger Campfire Program** (July 5, 12 & 19 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Campground Amphitheater (NPS)	9:30am **Ranger Hike – Hetch Hetchy** (except July 5) 2½ hrs. O'Shaughnessy Dam. Bring water (NPS) 1:00pm **Ranger Hike – Bears** (except June 14 & 21) 1½ hrs. Crane Flat Campground kiosk (NPS) 8:30pm **Ranger Campfire Program** (July 5, 12 & 19 only) 1 hr. Crane Flat campfire circle (NPS)

* Campfire programs will be presented, beginning June 21, only if Tuolumne Meadows Campground is open. Programs tentatively begin June 21 as scheduled. Check local postings.

Camping in Yosemite Park

Planning your camping experience

Camping in Yosemite. *Photo by Ray Santos*

General Info...

Services

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

Regulations

- Proper food storage is required 24 hours a day.
- A maximum of six people (including children) and two vehicles are allowed per campsite.
- Quiet hours are from 10 pm to 6 am.
- Where permitted, pets must be on a leash and may not be left unattended.

Campfires

- In Yosemite Valley between May 1 and October 1, campfires are permitted between 5 pm and 10 pm. At other times of the year and in out-of-Valley campgrounds, fires are permitted at any time, as long as they are attended.
- Firewood collection (including pine cones and pine needles) is not permitted in Yosemite Valley; you may purchase firewood at stores near the campgrounds.

A primitive overnight experience

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

Camping Reservations

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

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

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

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

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

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

Yosemite Valley

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

Camp 4 is a walk-in campground and is open all year on a first-come, first-served basis; these campsites are not wheelchair accessible. Sites are available on a per-person basis, and six people will be placed in each campsite, regardless of number of people in your party. Camp 4 often fills before 9 am each day, May through September.

Camping in Areas Surrounding Yosemite

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) operates a variety of campgrounds on a seasonal basis near Yosemite. For additional information, contact Groveland Ranger Station at 209/962-7825; Mariposa Ranger Station at 209/966-3638; Mono Lake Ranger Station at 760/647-3044; or Oakhurst Ranger Station at 559/683-4636. For private campgrounds outside Yosemite, call the respective chamber of commerce or visitor bureau listed on page 10.

Group Campgrounds

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

Campgrounds in Yosemite National Park

CAMPGROUND	OPEN 2008 (APPROX)	MAX RV LENGTH	MAX TRAILER LENGTH	RESERVATIONS REQUIRED?	DAILY FEE	# OF SITES	PETS	WATER
YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Upper Pines	All year	35 ft	24 ft	Yes	$20	238	Yes	Tap
Lower Pines	April 11 – Nov 3	40 ft	35 ft	Yes	$20	60	Yes	Tap
North Pines	Mar 21 – Oct 13	40 ft	35 ft	Yes	$20	81	Yes	Tap
Camp 4	All year	No RVs/trailers	n/a	First-come, first-served	$5/pers.	35	No	Tap
SOUTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Wawona	All year	35 ft	35 ft	Apr 20 – Sep 27	$20	93	Yes	Tap
Bridalveil Creek	July – Sep 1	35 ft	24 ft	First-come,first-served	$14	110	Yes	Tap
NORTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Hodgdon Meadow	All year	35 ft	27 ft	Apr 20 – Oct 9	$20	105	Yes	Tap
Crane Flat	Jun 20 – Oct 13	35 ft	27 ft	Yes	$20	166	Yes	Tap
Tamarack Flat	late June – Oct 15	No RVs/trailers		First-come, first-served	$10	52	No	Creek (boil)
White Wolf	July – Sep 15	27 ft	24 ft	First-come, first-served	$14	74	Yes	Tap
Yosemite Creek	July – Sep 1	No RVs/trailers		First-come, first-served	$10	40	Yes	Creek (boil)
Porcupine Flat	July – Oct 15	24 ft (limited)	20 ft	First-come, first-served	$10	52	No	Creek (boil)
Tuolumne Meadows	July 15 – Sep 28	35 ft	35 ft	50%	$20	304	Yes	Tap

What's Happening

Improvement Efforts in Yosemite

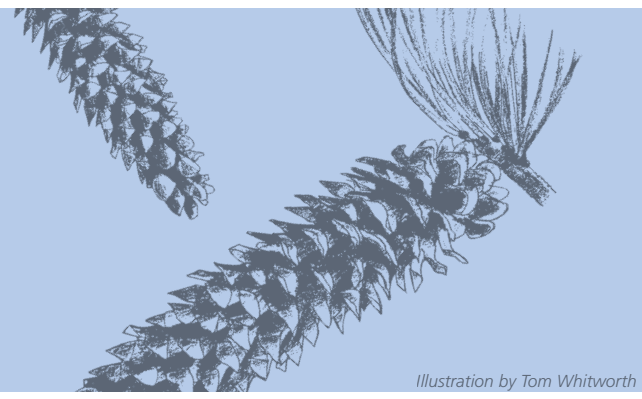


Illustration by Tom Whitworth

During your visit

This year, visitors to Yosemite may notice a flurry of activity throughout the park. Many projects may be less apparent than others, while some may cause temporary inconveniences.

However, each one plays a valuable part in the bigger picture of Yosemite's future—to improve the visitor experience while preserving the park's treasured natural and cultural resources, both today and for future generations.

Stay Connected

National parks help connect us with places that tell the stories of what is truly special about America. A visit to a national park can bring about memories that will last a lifetime. After you arrive home, these are some ways you can stay connected with your Yosemite experience:

- Learn more about the state of the park. A series of monthly open houses is conducted to inform visitors about the latest improvement projects occurring in the park.
- Sign up to be on the Yosemite mailing list. A quarterly Planning Update and a monthly e-mail newsletter are each available. To sign up for either or both of these publications, sign up at any visitor center or send your email address to yose_planning@nps.gov.
- Support one of Yosemite's park partner organizations (see page 23). The Yosemite Association and The Yosemite Fund are both nonprofit organizations that support the National Park Service's mission of protecting this special place for future generations.
- Volunteer your time or expertise. Individuals or groups can participate in service projects in Yosemite.
- Take part in a planning process. Yosemite's planning efforts can only truly succeed with the help of public involvement. As the park moves forward with plans for various improvements, let your voice be heard. Sign up on the park's mailing list or visit the planning web page at www.nps.gov/yose/planning.
- Come back and spend some more time in this amazing park!

To Learn more about Park **Improvements Efforts** visit online at **www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/planning**

This year, the park will complete improvements at Tunnel View, one of the park's most popular scenic overlooks. Traffic patterns, pedestrian areas, trail access, and educational exhibits will all be updated and improved. *Sketch courtesy of The Yosemite Fund, created by RHAA.*

Preparing for the next one hundred years: The Centennial Challenge

As the national park service nears its 100th anniversary in 2016, the parks are preparing for another century of environmental leadership, stewardship, recreational experience, education, and professional excellence. As a result, you will notice some positive changes. More park rangers will be available this summer to interact with you during your visit. More underserved students will be able to attend Yosemite Institute's field science program. The Happy Isles Nature Center will become the hub of Junior Ranger Programs in the park, including extended hours and a greater variety of program options for youth visiting the park.

Part of the Centennial Challenge is a landmark public-private partnership program. As part of this, The Yosemite Fund and Yosemite National Park have joined efforts to make improvements to the Tunnel View scenic overlook. To enhance visitor experience, protection of resources, and safety, members of The Yosemite Fund are contributing $2 million, while $1 million is coming from a special match from the National Park Service.

On-going Projects

Yosemite National Park is a complex place to manage. The National Park Service strives to protect park resources while providing an excellent experience for park visitors. In order to fulfill this important mission, a number of park improvement projects are currently underway, including:

- Management plans for the Merced and Tuolumne Rivers and their environs.
- Development of a Comprehensive Interpretive Plan to guide education and interpretation programming.
- Accessibility improvements for people with disabilities.
- Ecological restoration efforts that will improve meadow and river areas.

Entrance Fees

To help the National Park Service, Congress authorized the Recreation Fee Program. In addition to providing admission into Yosemite, your fees support projects in the park as well as other sites in the National Park System. When you visit a Fee site, you help the National Park Service preserve and protect our nation's heritage for future generations.

Projects Completed Include:

- Increasing ranger presence and interpretive programming in park campgrounds.
- Renovation of the Valley Visitor Center Theater, Lobby, and Exhibit Hall.
- Refurbishing roads, trails, and utilities throughout the park.

40th Anniversary of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act

This year, the nation celebrates 40 years of free-flowing rivers thanks to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Yosemite is world renowned for its domes and waterfalls. But equally iconic and central to the park's identity are its two federally designated wild and scenic rivers—the Merced and the Tuolumne. To learn more about wild and scenic rivers, visit www.rivers.gov.

NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM

Above Left: Tuolumne River. *Photo by Victoria Mates*

Supporting Your Park

Providing for Yosemite's Future

Enhance the Visitor's Experience

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

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

The Ansel Adams Gallery

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

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite

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

Yosemite Association

The Yosemite Association (Association) is a nonprofit membership organization that provides opportunities for people to learn about, enjoy, and experience Yosemite National Park and the Sierra Nevada. We celebrate the majesty and grandeur of this region through our visitor services, publications, outdoor classroom, and membership activities, which give people of all ages the chance to forge an enduring and inspirational connection to Yosemite. This, in turn, builds a commitment to the long-term preservation and vitality of Yosemite and our National Parks. Since 1923, the Association has provided important services and financial support to the National Park Service. Anyone who loves Yosemite and wishes to be become more closely involved and affiliated with the park will enjoy membership in the Association. For more information, visit park bookstores or www.yosemite.org.

The Yosemite Fund

The Fund provides broad-based private funding from 27,000 members for projects that preserve, protect, or enhance Yosemite Park. Fund operations result in material improvement in the stewardship and quality of Yosemite's natural, cultural or historical resources or the visitor experience. Fund grants repair trails, restore habitat, conduct scientific research, enhance visitor education, preserve park history, and protect wildlife. Since 1988 the Fund has provided over $50 million to complete more than 200 projects. Visit online at www.yosemitefund.org.

Yosemite Institute

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

Contact Us...

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

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite
PO Box 578
Yosemite, CA 95389
801/559-5000
www.yosemitepark.com

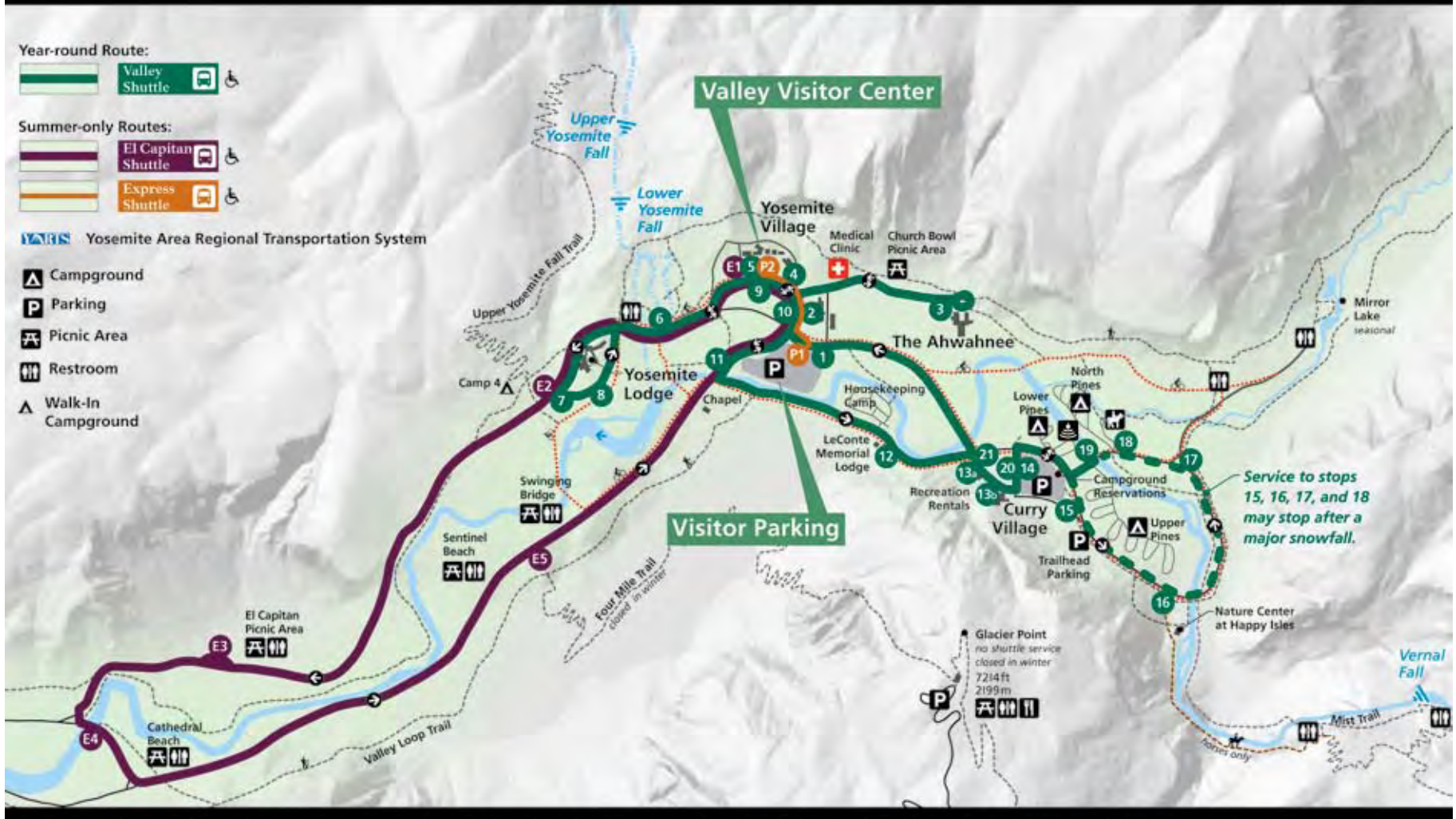
Yosemite Association
PO Box 230
El Portal, CA 95318
209/379-2646
209/379-2486 fax
www.yosemite.org

The Yosemite Fund
155 Montgomery St. #1104
San Francisco, CA 94104
800/469-7275 or 415/434-1782
www.yosemitefund.org

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

Above right: El Capitan. *NPS Photo*

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



Shuttles run daily every 10-20 minutes depending on the time of day. The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7:00am - 10:00pm. The El Capitan and Express Shuttles operate from 9:00am - 6:00pm. All shuttles follow the same route, serving stops in numerical order. Service may be affected by construction projects. Check shuttle stops for more information.

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

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