

12 Park Roads: Summer 2016



The Generals Highway in Giant Forest

Finding Gasoline

No gas stations are within the park boundaries. Fill up in Three Rivers (5 miles from Hwy 198 park entrance), Clingan's Junction (20 miles outside the Hwy 180 park entrance), or at:

- Hume Lake Christian Camp: 559-305-7770. Year-round, 24 hours with credit card (international cards not accepted). 11 miles (18 km) north of Grant Grove via Hwy 180.
- Stony Creek Village: 1-559-565-3909. 24 hours with credit card. Between Wuksachi & Grant Grove on Generals Hwy.
- Kings Canyon Lodge: Closed.

Rules & Recommendations

Don't Lose Your Brakes

Keep a foot on the brake for too long, and brakes may fail. Instead, always downshift when going downhill. In automatic vehicles, put the gearshift on 1, 2 or L. The engine gets louder.

Prevent Car Fires

Hot brakes & mufflers easily start car and forest fires. Stop *only* on paved areas, not on grasses.

Use Turnouts; Let Others Pass

Emergency Car Repairs

For a tow: 559-565-3341 then press zero (24 hours). In Sequoia Park only, 24-hour AAA for lock-outs, jump starts, out-of-gas, minor repairs: 565-4070.

Bicycles

Ride on roads, not trails. Obey traffic rules. Wear light colors at night. Under age 18: helmet required.

Go Slow for Wildlife!

Never feed animals by the road. Cars often hit wildlife that waits for handouts on roadsides.

Road Closures & Limitations

Most park roads are narrow and winding, so always keep to the right side. On downhills, use lower gears, not just your brakes.

In Kings Canyon & National Forest:

- Panoramic Point Road: Motorhomes/trailers not permitted.
- Converse Basin (USFS) & Redwood Mountain Road (NPS): Unpaved, rough, unplowed.
- Big Meadows, Quail Flat/Ten Mile, Chicago Stump, and Cherry Gap roads (USFS): Open.

In Sequoia National Park:

- Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow: Vehicle-length limit 22'; no trailers or towed units. *Through 9/11, the road closes to private vehicles on weekends and holidays, 8am to 7pm.* Take the shuttle (page 6), walk, or bicycle during that time. Exception: those with valid disabled-parking placard or a current local wilderness permit. Take a water bottle; no drinking water is available along this road.
- Crystal Cave Road: Maximum vehicle length 22' (6.7m). Narrow and winding.
- Mineral King Road: Very narrow & winding; steep. Partly unpaved. RVs/trailers not recommended (not allowed in campgrounds there).
- South Fork & Middle Fork roads: Partially unpaved. Slippery when wet.

Driving Times

When roads are clear and open:

From Foothills to:

Giant Forest	1 hour
Lodgepole	1 hour minimum
Visalia	1 hour
Mineral King (MK)	1½ hours

From Giant Forest to Grant Grove via Generals Hwy 1 hour

From Grant Grove to:

Cedar Grove	1 hour
Fresno	1½ hours
Yosemite south entry	3 hours

(via Hwy 41)

Vehicle-Length Limits on Roads

On Generals Highway in Sequoia National Park:

- Potwisha Campground to Giant Forest Museum: longer than 22 feet not recommended.
- Foothills Visitor Center to Potwisha Campground: longer than 24 feet not recommended.

Alternatives: Hwy 180 from Fresno is straighter, less steep, and wider. If towing a car with an RV, camp in the foothills and use the car.

For limits on RVs in campgrounds, see the campgrounds table on page 4.



Photo courtesy of Alex Olow

Fire Restrictions

Restrictions are likely to increase during summer in order to keep people and park safe from unnatural fires. When this was printed, fires were still permitted in park campgrounds, picnic areas, and some wilderness areas, but always ask for updates, or see www.nps.gov/seki/nature-science/fire-restrictions.

In neighboring Sequoia National Forest and Giant Sequoia National Monument, some restrictions are in effect, so check locally.

Remember: No fireworks, and never stop a car in dry grass.