# Highlights
## KINGS CANYON

©The Whaleback © Peter Stekel, used with permission.

## GRANT GROVE

**Before taking to the trails, review safety advice on page 5.** Carry a map and water. Orient yourself before heading out and tell someone where you are going.

**GENERAL GRANT TREE:** One of the world's largest living trees. President Coolidge proclaimed it the Nation's Christmas Tree in 1926. It is also a National Shrine, the only living memorial to those who died in war. Visit historic Gamlin Cabin and the Fallen Monarch along this 1/3-mile (.5 km) paved trail. A trail guide is sold at the visitor center. North and west of the visitor center 1 mile (1.6 km).

**NORTH GROVE LOOP:** This lightly traveled, 1-1/2 mile (2.4 km) trail provides a close look at the Big Trees and a quiet walk through conifer forest. Starts at lower Grant Tree parking area.

**DEAD GIANT LOOP:** Speculate on what killed this sequoia, and enjoy a picturesque view of an historic mill pond. Follow the old road from the lower Grant Tree parking area for about a mile. The trail branches off, creating a 1-1/2 mile (2.4 km) round trip.

## NEARBY TRAILS & POINTS OF INTEREST

**PANORAMIC POINT ROAD:** Spectacular vista of the high Sierra. Go east through the visitor center parking lot, left around the meadow, then right at the intersection signed "Panoramic Point, 2.3 miles (3.7 km)." Walk 1/4 mile (.4 km) up to the viewpoint. Trailers and RVs strongly discouraged on this steep, narrow road. The 4.7-mile (7.5 km) round-trip Park Ridge Trail begins here.

**BUENA VISTA PEAK:** Begin just south of Kings Canyon Overlook on Generals Highway, 7 miles (11 km) southeast of Grant Grove. 360° vista of Redwood Canyon, Buck Rock Lookout, and the high Sierra. 2 miles (3.2 km) round trip.

**REDWOOD CANYON:** The world's largest grove of giant sequoias. Acres of rejuvenating forest result from 30 years of prescribed fires, showing the positive relationship between fire and sequoias. Across the Generals Highway from the Quail Flat/ Hume Lake junction (6 miles/9.6 km south of Grant Grove), turn south/west at Redwood Saddle. Go right for 2 miles (3.2 km) on a bumpy dirt road.

**BIG BALDY:** Great views and a look down into Redwood Canyon from this ridge. The trail winds 2 miles (3.2 km) to the summit at 8,209 feet (2502 m). From Grant Grove, drive 8 miles (13 km) south on the Generals Highway to Big Baldy Trailhead. Elevation gain 600 feet (183 m); round trip 4 miles (6.4 km).

**KINGS CANYON OVERLOOK:** For a view to the northeast of the high Sierra wilderness, stop at this overlook about 6 miles (9.5 km) south of Grant Grove.

**REDWOOD MOUNTAIN OVERLOOK:** Six miles (9.6 km) south of Grant Grove, on the Generals Highway, it looks west over one of the world's largest sequoia groves. Studies here proved the strong relationship between fire and sequoia reproduction.

## KINGS CANYON & CEDAR GROVE

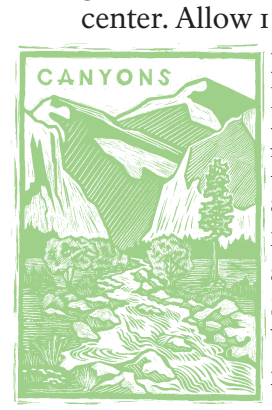
**The road into this spectacular gorge is open late April to mid-November (weather permitting). Be very careful around the river!**

**CANYON VIEW:** The "U" shape of Kings Canyon, apparent from this viewpoint, reveals its glacial history. 1 mile (1.6 km) east of Cedar Grove Village turnoff.

**KNAPP'S CABIN:** During the Roaring '20s, Santa Barbara businessman George Knapp commissioned lavish fishing expeditions here, using this small cabin to store gear. A short walk from a turnout 2 miles (3.2 km) east of Cedar Grove Village road.

**ROARING RIVER FALLS:** A shady, five-minute walk to a powerful waterfall rushing through a narrow granite chute. 3 miles (4.8 km) east of the Village turnoff. Relatively accessible; fairly level. Repaving in progress.

**ZUMWALT MEADOW:** This 1.5-mile (2.4 km) trail offers high granite walls, a lush meadow, and the meandering Kings River. Park at trailhead 4-1/2 miles (7.2 km) east of the Cedar Grove Village turnoff. Purchase a trail guide at the trailhead or visitor center. Allow 1 hour.




**ROAD'S END:** Here where the pavement ends are high granite walls and trails to the river, Muir Rock, and the High Sierra. East of the Village turnoff 5-1/2 miles (8.8 km).

## TAKE TIME FOR A HIKE

**MIST FALLS:** Follow the river to one of the park's largest waterfalls. Allow 4-5 hours; 9 miles (14.4 km) round trip. Fairly flat at first; a 600-foot elevation gain in the last 2 miles (3.2 km). Park at Road's End.

**DON CECIL TRAIL:** The main route into the canyon prior to the 1939 completion of Highway 180. It starts .2 miles (.3 km) east of the village, climbs a north-facing slope past Sheep Creek Cascade (1 mile/1.6 km up); good views. Lookout Peak (13-mile/21-km round trip, 4000 foot/ 1220 m e levation gain) has a great panorama. Strenuous; allow all day.

**HOTEL CREEK TRAIL:** Starts .2 mile (.3 km) north of the market at the intersection with the pack station road; climbs through chaparral to a forested ridge and Cedar Grove Overlook. Great views. 5 miles (8 km) round trip; 1200-foot/365 m elevation gain. Strenuous; allow 3 -4 hours. Return via Lewis Creek Trail for an 8-mile (12.9 km) loop.

## USFS NATIONAL FOREST

**Explore Giant Sequoia National Monument, part of Sequoia National Forest (see page 2).**

**CONVERSE BASIN:** Virtually every mature sequoia in this huge grove was felled early in the 1900s. Walk the 2-mile (3.2 km) Boole Tree loop to see a monarch they spared (6 miles north of Grant Grove), or the 1/2-mile (.8 km) loop to the Chicago Stump, a tree cut for exhibit at the 1893 World's Fair (2 miles north of Grant Grove).

**INDIAN BASIN:** Logged a century ago, this recovering forest and meadow look quite different today. A one-mile, newly constructed accessible trail extends another unpaved mile. Take Highway 180 7 miles north of Grant Grove ; turn into Princess Campground. Trail begins by the host's site near the dump station.

**HUME LAKE,** formed by a rare, historic multiple-arch dam, supplied water for a flume to float lumber to Sanger, 67 miles (108 km) below. An easy 2 1/2-mile (4km) trail circles it. Page 9 lists recreational options there. 8 miles (12.8 km) north of Grant Grove on Highway 180; 3 miles (4.8 km) south on Hume Lake Road.

**BUCK ROCK LOOKOUT:** A 1916 tower, still used for spotting fires, offers 360° views. Approximately 6 miles (9.6 km) off Big Meadows and 14S11 then Forest Road 13S04.