Yosemite Guide



Yosemite National Park **November 25, 2026 – January 26, 2027**

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Keep this Guide with you while you explore the park!

Here's what's inside:

Over 30 bears
were hit by vehicles in Yosemite in 2026.





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

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

Park Regulations

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

Prohibited activities include:

- Using drones
- Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Collecting plants and animals
- Hunting animals
- Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Biking off of paved roads
- Camping outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities
- Possessing or using marijuana, including medical marijuana

Pets are NOT allowed on hiking trails, on shuttles, or inside park buildings.

Pets must be leashed at all times. Properly dispose of pet waste. Turn to page 10 for pet-friendly walks in Yosemite Valley.

Service dogs are allowed anywhere that visitors can go. A service dog is trained to perform a specific task to assist a person with a disability. Emotional support, therapy, and companion animals are all subject to pet regulations.

Finding Help

In an Emergency: Call or Text 911

General Park Information
209/372-0200

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

24-hour Roadside Assistance
209/372-1060

Yosemite Medical Clinic
209/372-4637

Lost & Found
Check the nearest information center or hotel front desk. Visit go.nps.gov/lost to report a lost item.

Accessibility
Download an Accessibility Guide:
go.nps.gov/AccessYosemite

Yosemite Online

National Park Service app
Take maps and information with you while you explore the park. Available for iOS and Android.

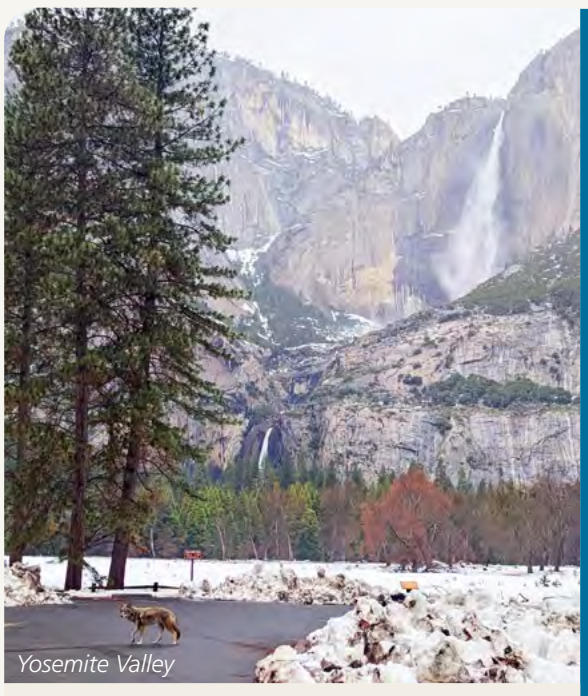


Yosemite National Park website
www.nps.gov/yose

Social Media
@YosemiteNPS

Enjoy Your National Park!

Seasonal Updates


Yosemite Valley

Winter Closures

Closure dates depend on conditions. Typical winter closures include:

Roads

- Glacier Point Road (approx. Nov. – May)
- Tioga Road (approx. Nov. – May/June)
- Mariposa Grove Road (no vehicle or shuttle access to grove)

Trails

- Four Mile Trail (upper section)
- Mist Trail (stair section) & John Muir Trail between Clark Pt/Panorama Trail Junction ("Ice Cut".)

See map on page 11 for winter detour.

Ranger Tips: Visiting Yosemite in Winter

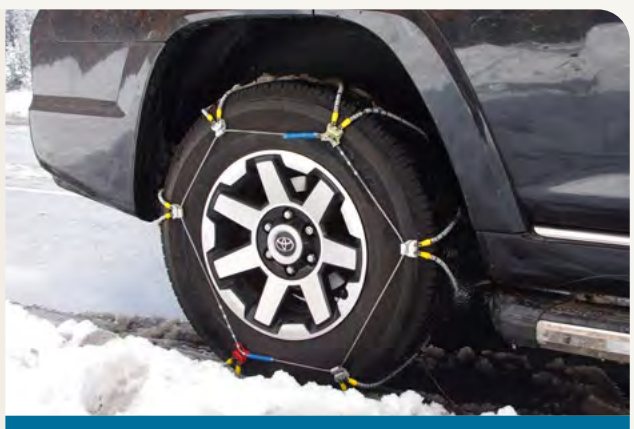
- **Adjust expectations:** visiting in winter is a *very* different experience from a summer visit. Winter visitors enjoy a slower-paced, more peaceful side of Yosemite, with an opportunity for seasonal activities like skiing, snowshoeing, and ice skating.
- **Winter is *not* an ideal time to hike** many of Yosemite's popular trails. Expect closures, unreachable trailheads, and trails buried under ice and snow. Winter hiking requires extra preparation, special equipment, and experience navigating in snow. *Trail information on page 10.*
- In winter, **Giant Sequoias can only be reached on foot.** There is NO access by car or by shuttle to Giant Sequoias.
- When **winter road closures are in effect**, Glacier Point and destinations along Tioga Road are not accessible by car.
- Expect **fewer visitor services**, especially outside of Yosemite Valley.
- **All vehicles should carry tire chains in winter.** Chains can become mandatory on any park road at any time. *See information below.*
- **Embrace the season:** enjoy a scenic stroll on the Valley floor (pg 10), go ice skating (pg 5), explore indoor exhibits (pg 4), play in snow at Crane Flat (pg 7), or try out skiing or snowshoeing at Badger Pass (pg 6)!

Tire Chains

Tire chains and cables are devices that improve traction in snow and ice. **Chains can become mandatory on any park road at any time**, especially during or after winter storms. When restrictions are in effect, ALL vehicles must carry chains, *including 4-wheel drive and rental vehicles.* Visit **go.nps.gov/chains** to learn more about tire chains.

Call 209/372-0200 (1, 1) to hear current road conditions and chain restrictions.

Taking a YARTS bus to Yosemite can be a convenient alternative to winter driving. Visit **YARTS.com** for schedule and tickets.



Levels of Chain Restrictions

R1 | chains OR snow tires required
R2 | chains OR snow tires & AWD/4WD required
R3 | chains required on ALL vehicles

ALL vehicles must have tire chains in possession at levels R1, R2, or R3. Vehicles over 6000 lbs or vehicles towing a trailer must use chains at R1, R2, and R3.



Keep Bears Wild! Proper Food Storage is Required by Federal Law—Even in Winter.

Bears that frequently access human food* lose their fear of people and can become dangerous. Bears may have to be killed in order to protect people.

During the Day

✔ **DO:** Keep your food* within arm's reach while hiking or picnicking.

✔ **DO:** Lock your vehicle and keep all windows closed when you are away. Keep food*, drinks, and coolers hidden.

✕ **DON'T:** Leave food* unattended outside, in a truck bed, or strapped to the outside of a vehicle.

At Night

✔ **DO:** Remove food* from your vehicle at night. *Bears can easily break into vehicles in search of food.* Store food inside a bear locker, in a hotel room or hard-sided cabin, or in a hard-sided RV with all windows and doors closed.

✕ **Food*, trash, and other scented items may NOT be stored inside vehicles overnight.**

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

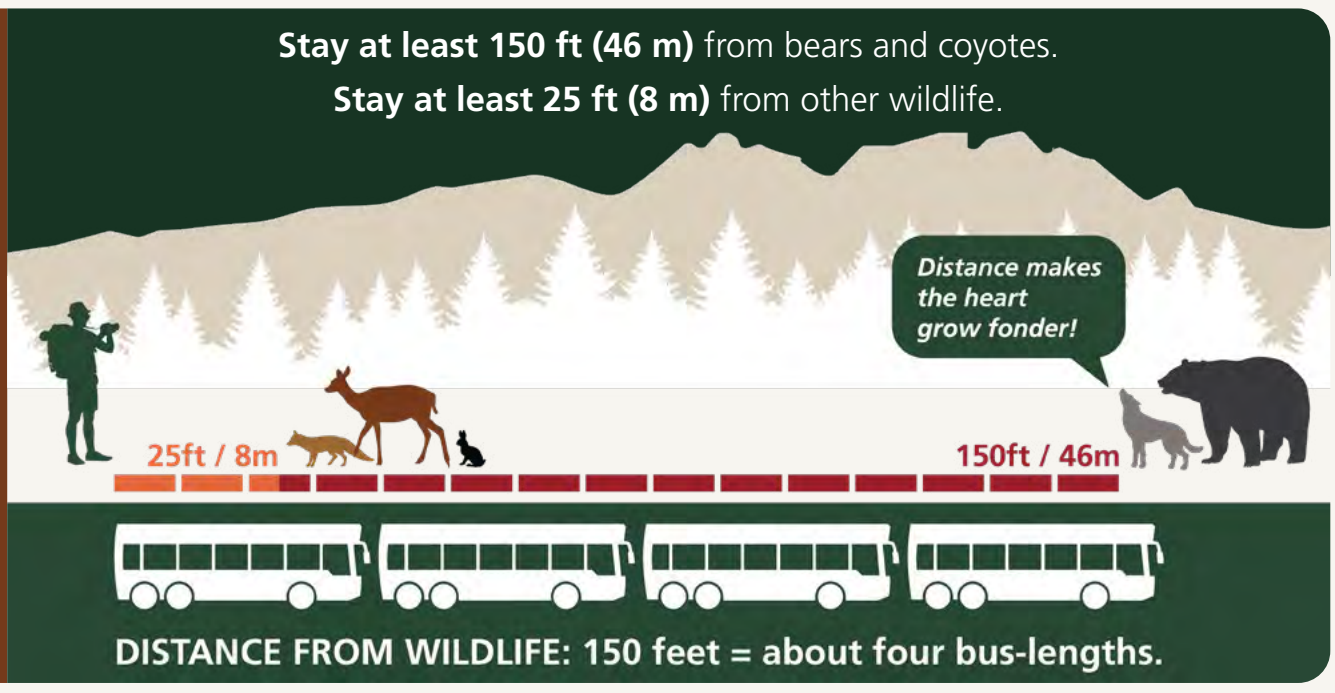
If you see a bear in the park, email yose_bear_mgmt@nps.gov or call the Save-a-Bear hotline at 209/372-0322.

*To learn more about food storage and bears, visit **KeepBearsWild.org**.*

It's illegal to approach or feed ANY wild animal in Yosemite,

including birds, squirrels, and deer.

Wildlife can cause injuries and transmit diseases. Human food is unhealthy for wild animals.



Exploring Yosemite



Your GPS Might be Wrong
Follow directional signs on park roads, and do not enter closed areas.

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

Road Closures & Chain Restrictions (Recorded)
209/372-0200 (press 1, then 1)

24-Hour Roadside Assistance
209/372-1060. Yosemite Village Garage open daily 8 am – 12 pm & 1 pm – 5 pm.

In an Emergency, Call or Text 911

Estimated Driving Times

From Yosemite Valley	Distance & Time
to Glacier Point CLOSED	1 hr (32 mi, 51 km)
to Badger Pass Ski Area	45 min (21 mi, 34 km)
to Wawona	52 min (28 mi, 45 km)
to Mariposa Grove/South Entrance	1 hr (33 mi, 53 km)
to Crane Flat	30 min (16 mi, 26 km)
to Big Oak Flat Entrance	42 min (24 mi, 39 km)
to Hetch Hetchy	1 hr, 20 min (42 mi, 68 km)
to Arch Rock Entrance	21 min (11 mi, 18 km)
to El Portal	27 min (15 mi, 24 km)
to Tuolumne Meadows CLOSED	1 hr, 30 min (55 mi, 89 km)
to Tioga Pass Entrance CLOSED	1 hr, 50 min (63 mi, 101 km)

Gas Stations

Gas & diesel available 24 hours with card. Staffed hours below.

Location	Staffed Hours
Yosemite Valley	NO GAS AVAILABLE
El Portal *outside the park*	**staffed 8 am – 5 pm** 15 mi/24 km from Yosemite Valley (downhill)
Crane Flat	**unstaffed in winter, pay at pump** 16 mi/26 km from Yosemite Valley (uphill)
Wawona	**staffed 9 am – 6 pm** 28 mi/45 km from Yosemite Valley (uphill)

Electric Vehicle Charging

Level 2 EV charging. All charging stations use J1772 connectors.

Location	Number of Chargers
Yosemite Valley	Welcome Center (4), The Ahwahnee (6), Curry Village (20), Yosemite Falls (10)
El Portal	Market & Gas Station (2)
Wawona	Wawona Store (24)
Tuolumne Meadows	temporarily unavailable



Information Centers

Information, junior ranger booklets, passport stamps, lost & found, gifts.

Location	Season & Hours
Yosemite Valley Welcome Center	Open year-round, 9 am – 5 pm
Big Oak Flat Information Station	Open until Jan 3, 9 am – 5 pm *store closed Wed/Thu*
Wawona Visitor Center	Closed in winter
Mariposa Grove Depot	Open until Dec 13, 9 am – 5 pm
Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center	Closed in winter

Shuttles

Line	Cost	Season & Hours
Yosemite Valley Shuttles	free	7 am – 10 pm, year-round *Service around the Valley floor only. Turn to page 4.*
Mariposa Grove Shuttle	free	no service in winter *available approx. Apr – Nov. Free shuttle between parking area and the Grove. Turn to page 6 for winter access.*
Glacier Point Tour Bus	check TravelYosemite.com	no service in winter *available approx. May – Oct. 4-hour tour from Yosemite Valley to Glacier Point. One-way tickets for hikers available (drop-off only, no pickup at Glacier Point.)*
Badger Pass Ski Shuttle	free	*Service between Yosemite Valley and Badger Pass Ski Area, available when Badger Pass is open. Turn to page 6 for schedule.*
Tuolumne Meadows Hikers Bus	check TravelYosemite.com	no service in winter *available approx. Jun – Sep. One run per day from Yosemite Valley to Tuolumne Meadows, with service to trailheads.*
Tuolumne Meadows Area Shuttle	free	no service in winter *available approx. Jun – Sep. Service between Tuolumne Meadows and nearby trailheads.*

YARTS Bus to Yosemite

The Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) is a public transit system that provides service into Yosemite. Year-round service from Merced (Hwy 140.) Summer-only service from Fresno (Hwy 41), Sonora (Hwy 120W), and Mammoth Lakes (Hwy 120E.) **For bus schedules and tickets, visit YARTS.com or call 877/989-2787.**

Biking in Yosemite

Ride on paved bike paths and park roads only (NO hiking trails, including the Valley Loop Trail.) 11+ miles of bike paths in Yosemite Valley. Speed limit on bike paths is 15 mph. Cyclists must obey traffic laws on park roads. Helmets required for children under 18. E-bikes with operable pedals and motors less than 750w/1hp allowed.

Bike Rentals available spring through fall.
Visit TravelYosemite.com

Yosemite Bike Share available spring through fall.
Visit goyose.org/bikeshare

Places to Go



Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley is famous for its waterfalls, towering granite walls, and iconic features like El Capitan and Half Dome. The Valley is one of the park's more accessible areas in winter.

Turn to Page 4



Wawona & The Mariposa Grove

Explore giant sequoias, meadows, and the South Fork Merced River near Yosemite's South Entrance. The Mariposa Grove is only accessible via a snowy hike in winter.

Turn to Page 6



Glacier Point & Badger Pass Ski Area

Glacier Point Road is closed to vehicles from approx. Nov. to May. In winter, Badger Pass is a hub for downhill skiing and cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

Turn to Page 6



Crane Flat

Hike to two quiet sequoia groves near the Big Oak Flat Entrance (snowy and icy in winter.)

Turn to Page 7



Hetch Hetchy

Walk across the O'Shaughnessy Dam, hike along the reservoir, or access Yosemite's Wilderness.

Turn to Page 7



Tioga Road & Tuolumne Meadows

Tioga Road is closed to vehicles from approx. Nov. to May/Jun. In winter, this remote area can only be reached by experienced skiers.

Turn to Page 7

Yosemite Valley

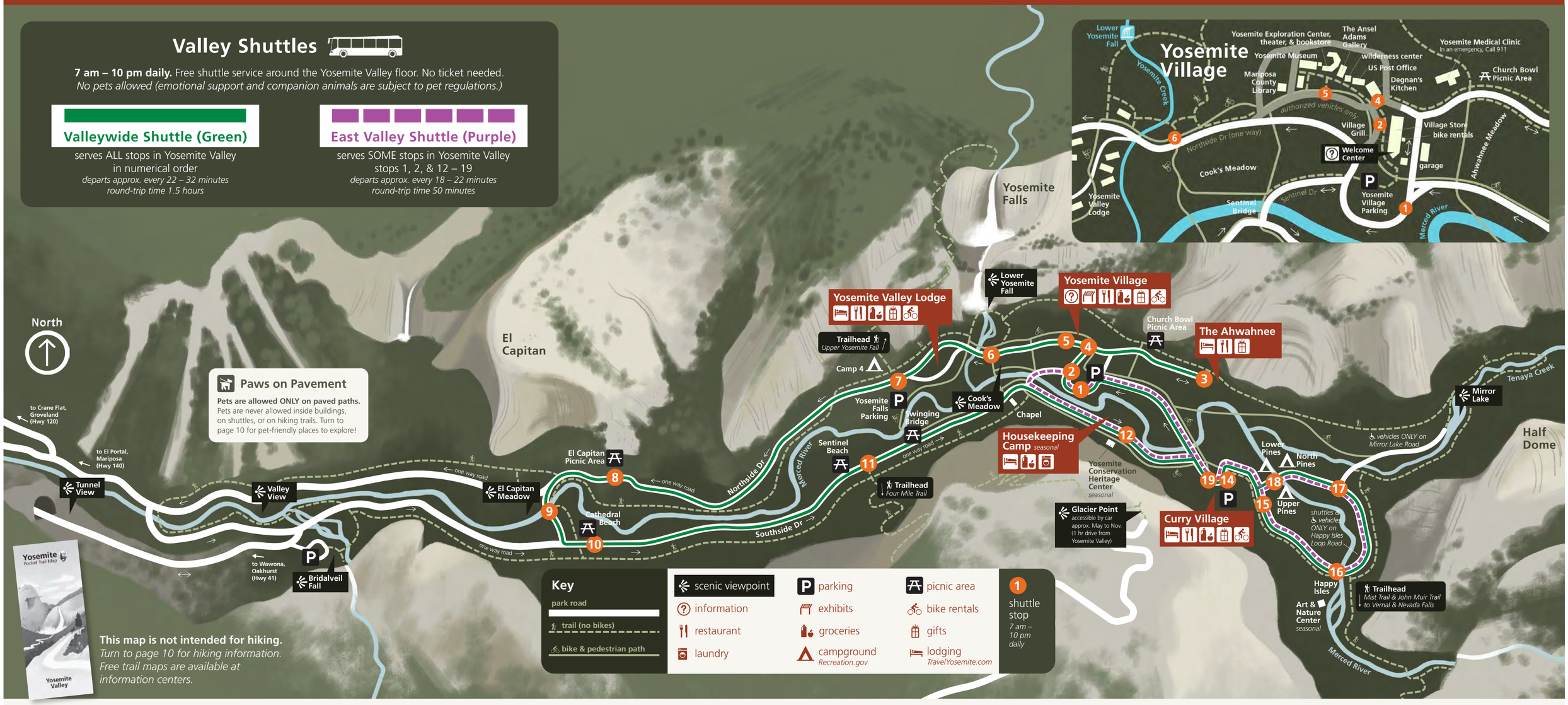
Restaurant menus & more at TravelYosemite.com
Hours & seasonal operating dates are subject to change.

Valley Shuttles

7 am – 10 pm daily. Free shuttle service around the Yosemite Valley floor. No ticket needed.
No pets allowed (emotional support and companion animals are subject to pet regulations.)

Valleywide Shuttle (Green)
serves ALL stops in Yosemite Valley in numerical order
departs approx. every 22 – 32 minutes
round-trip time 1.5 hours

East Valley Shuttle (Purple)
serves SOME stops in Yosemite Valley stops 1, 2, & 12 – 19
departs approx. every 18 – 22 minutes
round-trip time 50 minutes



Paws on Pavement

Pets are allowed ONLY on paved paths.
Pets are never allowed inside buildings, on shuttles, or on hiking trails. Turn to page 10 for pet-friendly places to explore!

This map is not intended for hiking.
Turn to page 10 for hiking information. Free trail maps are available at information centers.

Key

park road
trail (no bikes)
bike & pedestrian path

scenic viewpoint
information
restaurant
laundry
parking
exhibits
groceries
campground *Recreation.gov*
picnic area
bike rentals
gifts
lodging *TravelYosemite.com*
1 shuttle stop *7 am – 10 pm daily*

YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE 7

- **Starbucks Coffee** 7 am – 3 pm *Specialty coffee, snacks, & light breakfast.*
- **Base Camp Eatery** 7 am – 10:30 am & 11 am – 8 pm *Fast casual breakfast, burgers, chicken, pasta.*
- **Mountain Room Lounge** Mon to Fri: 5 pm – 10 pm; Sat & Sun: 12 pm – 10 pm. *Beer, cocktails, & light entrees. Fireplace.*
- **Mountain Room Restaurant** 5 pm – 9 pm *(final seating 8:30 pm.) Upscale casual steakhouse. Reservations: OpenTable.com.*
- **Gift Shop** 8 am – 8 pm. *Gifts, snacks, & drinks.*
- **Bike Rentals** closed for the season
- **Front Desk & Tour Tickets** 24 hours
- **Pool** closed for the season

SPIRITUAL SERVICES

Yosemite Community Church (Yosemite Chapel)
Weekly Sunday Service: 9:15 am, Weekly Wednesday Service: 7 pm, Thanksgiving (Nov 26): 10 am, Christmas Eve (Dec 24): 4 pm
Pastor Brent Moore. Call 209/372-4831 or visit YosemiteValleyChapel.org.

Alcoholics Anonymous (Yosemite Chapel) Tues & Thurs: 6:30 pm

YOSEMITE VILLAGE 1 2 4 5

- **Welcome Center** 9 am – 5 pm *Information, junior ranger booklets, gifts, passport stamp.*
- **Exploration Center, Theater, & Bookstore** 9 am – 5 pm *Rotating exhibits, park film, books & gifts.* The Spirit of Yosemite *(23 min) runs on the hour/half-hour 9:30 am – 4 pm.*
- **Yosemite Museum** 10 am – 4 pm. *Exhibits, cultural demos, gifts (jewelry, crafts, and books.) May close for lunch.*
- **The Ansel Adams Gallery** 10 am – 4 pm (closed Nov 26 & Dec 25) *Art, books, & gifts. Exhibitions & classes on pg 8 & 9.*
- **Degnan's Kitchen** 7 am – 6 pm. *Limited service 11 – 11:30 am. Peet's coffee, sandwiches, & grab-and-go items. Fireplace & WiFi.*
- **Village Grill** closed for the season
- **Village Store** 8 am – 8 pm *General store with park's largest selection of gifts & groceries.*
- **Bike Rentals** closed for the season
- **US Post Office** Mon – Fri : 8:30 am – 5 pm, Sat: 10 am – 12 pm
- **Mariposa County Library** Tue & Wed: 11 am – 6 pm. *WiFi.*
- **Yosemite Medical Clinic** *NOT an emergency room: call 911.* Urgent care walk-ins: Mon – Fri, 1 pm – 3:30 pm. 209/372-4637

THE AHWAHNEE HOTEL 3

- **The Ahwahnee Bar** 11:30 am – 10 pm. *Upscale casual bar with craft cocktails, wine, appetizers, and lighter entrees.*
- **Dining Room** breakfast 7 am – 10 am; lunch 11:30 am – 2 pm; dinner 5:30 pm – 9 pm; Sunday brunch 7 am – 2 pm *Fine dining. Appropriate attire required for dinner. Dinner reservations strongly recommended: 209/372-1489 or OpenTable.com.*
- **Gift Shop** 9 am – 7 pm
- **Sweet Shop** 7 am – 10 pm

OTHER LOCATIONS

- **Housekeeping Camp Store** closed for the season
- **Housekeeping Camp Laundry** 8 am – 8 pm. *Shuttle stop 12.*
- **Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (Sierra Club)** closed for the season; reopening May 2027!
- **Happy Isles Art & Nature Center** closed for the season

CURRY VILLAGE 14 19

Open until Nov 29. Reopens Dec 11 – Jan 3.

- **Coffee Corner (open until Nov 29 & Dec 12 – Jan 3)** 6:30 am – 11 am. *Peet's Coffee & light breakfast.*
- **Seven Tents Pavilion (open until Nov 29 & Dec 11 – Jan 3)** breakfast 7 am – 10 am; dinner 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm. *Hearty homestyle meals.*
- **Pizza Deck (open until Nov 28)** 12 pm – 9 pm. *Pizza, salad, & garlic bread. Pizza available at Pavilion during dinner Dec 11 – Jan 2.*
- **Bar 1899 (open until Nov 28 & Dec 11 – Jan 2)** 4 pm – 9 pm. *Craft beer, cocktails, & light entrees.*
- **Meadow Grill & Jennie's Ice Cream** closed for the season
- **Gift & Grocery** 8 am – 8 pm. *Gifts & grocery essentials.*
- **Mountain Shop** 9 am – 6 pm. *Hiking/climbing gear & apparel.*
- **Mountaineering School** closed for the season. *Contact YMS@aramark.com for future reservations.*
- **Bike Rentals** closed for the season
- **Ice Rink** 2.5-hour sessions at 12 pm, 3:30 pm, 7 pm. Additional 8:30 am session on weekends & holidays.
- **Raft Rentals & Pool** closed for the season
- **Showers (open until Nov 29 & Dec 11 – Jan 3)** 24 hours

Beyond the Valley

Free trail maps are available at information centers!



WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE

Explore giant sequoias, meadows, and the South Fork Merced River near Yosemite's South Entrance. Located about one hour from Yosemite Valley on Wawona Road (continuation of Hwy 41.)

THINGS TO DO

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

Wawona Meadow Loop Relaxed bike- and pet-friendly trail around the meadow.

Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias Visit Yosemite's largest sequoia grove and explore many miles of scenic trails. Trails are often icy and snowy in winter (snowshoes may be needed.) *There is no shuttle or vehicle access in winter.* Hike from the parking area on the road or the Washburn Trail—2 mi (3.2 km) each way, with 500 ft (150 m) of elevation gain.

VISITOR SERVICES

Wawona Visitor Center & Bookstore closed for the season

Yosemite History Center outdoor exhibits open daily

Mariposa Grove Depot (open until Dec 13) 9 am – 5 pm
Gifts, information, passport stamp, Jr Ranger booklets.

Wawona Hotel/Dining Room closed for renovation

Wawona Store 8 am – 7 pm

Golf Course closed for the season

Stable closed for the season

US Post Office Mon – Fri: 9 am – 1 pm;
Sat: 9 am – 12 pm

Mariposa County Library Tue & Thu: 12 pm – 5 pm;
Sat: 10 am – 3 pm. *WiFi.*

Wawona Gas Station staffed 9 am – 6 pm
Propane available when staffed. Gas & diesel.
24-hour pay-at-the-pump with card.

EL PORTAL

Gas station and market just outside of Yosemite's Arch Rock Entrance on Hwy 140.

VISITOR SERVICES

El Portal Market (closed approx Dec 6 – 20 for renovation)
9 am – 7 pm. *Limited groceries & gifts. Wi-Fi.*

El Portal Gas Station staffed 8 am – 5 pm. *Propane available when staffed. Gas & diesel. 24-hour pay-at-the-pump with card.*



GLACIER POINT & BADGER PASS

Glacier Point Road is closed in vehicles in winter and groomed as a ski trail. Vehicles may drive as far as Badger Pass when the ski area is open.

In winter, Badger Pass is Yosemite's hub for downhill and cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. The ski area is open when conditions allow—operations rely entirely on real snow! **Call the Snow Phone to hear current conditions: 209/372-1000**

Badger Pass is located about 45 minutes from Yosemite Valley.

THINGS TO DO

Turn to page 8 for guided walks and lessons at Badger Pass.

Try snowshoeing Rent snowshoes and explore on your own—or join a guided snowshoe walk. Stop by the Badger Pass Ranger Station for maps and information.

Downhill skiing and snowboarding Hit the slopes! Check the information below for lift passes, rentals, lessons, and more.

Sledding and snowplay is NOT allowed at Badger Pass: check out the Crane Flat Snow Play Area instead! Hiking on groomed ski and snowshoe trails is NOT permitted.

VISITOR SERVICES

Badger Pass Ski Area may open as early as Dec 11, if conditions allow. Call 209/372-1000.

Glacier Point Gift Shop closed for the season

Badger Pass Ski Lifts 9 am – 4 pm

Badger Pass Tickets 8:30 am – 4 pm

Badger Pass Rentals 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Badger Pass Ski School 8:30 am – 4 pm

Sport Shop 9 am – 4 pm

Badger Pass Tubing 2-hour sessions at 11 am & 2 pm

Badger Pass Shuttle (Yosemite Valley to Badger Pass)
Free shuttle service. Seats first-come, first-served.
Departs Curry Village 8:05 am & 10:35 am
Departs Yosemite Village (bus depot) 8:10 am & 10:40 am
Departs The Ahwahnee 8:15 am & 10:45 am
Departs Yosemite Valley Lodge 8:30 am & 11 am

Badger Pass Shuttle (Badger Pass to Yosemite Valley)
Departs 2:00 pm & 4:30 pm

Skiers Grill Mon – Thu: 10:30 am – 4 pm;
Fri, Sat, Sun: 8 am – 4 pm;

Snowflake Room open Fri, Sat, Sun, & holidays: 12 pm – 4 pm



CRANE FLAT

Hike to two quiet sequoia groves near the Big Oak Flat Entrance. Located 30–45 minutes from Yosemite Valley on Big Oak Flat Road.

THINGS TO DO

Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias *Skis or snowshoes may be needed in winter. Do not hike on ski tracks.* Trailhead located on Tioga Rd, just north of Crane Flat. Hike 2 mi/3.2 km (roundtrip) to the grove. Add an optional 0.5-mi/0.8-km loop around the nature trail. Expect a steep climb of 500 ft/150 m on the return to the trailhead.

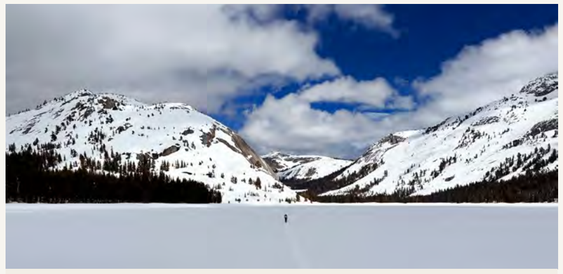
Merced Grove of Giant Sequoias *Skis or snowshoes may be needed in winter. Do not hike on ski tracks.* A very small and quiet sequoia grove. From the trailhead on Big Oak Flat Rd, hike 3 mi/4.8 km (roundtrip) to the grove. Expect a steep climb of 520 ft/160 m on the return to the trailhead.

Crane Flat Snow Play Area Open when there is enough snow. The perfect place for families to enjoy sledding and snowplay! Located near the Crane Flat gas station.

VISITOR SERVICES

Big Oak Flat Information Station & Bookstore (open until Jan 3) 9 am – 5 pm. *Bookstore closed Wed/Thu.*

Crane Flat Gas & Grocery store closed in winter. *Gas station open year-round; 24-hour pay-at-the-pump with card.*



TIOGA ROAD & TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

Tioga Road is closed to vehicles in winter, typically from November to May/June. This remote area of the park can only be reached by a strenuous, typically multi-day ski trip.

Check out weekly updates from Tuolumne Meadows winter rangers at **go.nps.gov/winterblog**

VISITOR SERVICES

no services in winter



HETCH HETCHY

Walk across the O'Shaughnessy Dam, hike along the reservoir, or access Yosemite's Wilderness.

Open sunrise to sunset only. There are no services in this remote area of the park. *Swimming and boating are not permitted in the reservoir. Pets are not allowed on the dam or on any trails.*

GETTING HERE

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

VISITOR SERVICES

Restrooms and water bottle fill. No other services.



SPENDING THE NIGHT IN YOSEMITE

CAMPING

Upper Pines (Yosemite Valley): by reservation only—Recreation.gov
Camp 4 (Yosemite Valley): first-come, first-served in winter
Hodgdon Meadow: first-come, first-served in winter
Wawona Campground: first-come, first-served in winter

visit go.nps.gov/campground for details

Sleeping in a vehicle is ONLY allowed at a registered campsite; sleeping on the side of the road or in parking areas is prohibited.
For backpacking information, turn to page 11.

LODGING

The Ahwahnee, Yosemite Valley Lodge, Curry Village, Housekeeping Camp (seasonal), Tuolumne Meadows Lodge (seasonal), High Sierra Camps (seasonal) operated by Yosemite Hospitality: book at **TravelYosemite.com**

Programs & Classes

Additional programs may be offered: visit go.nps.gov/YosemiteCalendar to view the **online calendar,** or check listings at information centers. *Program schedule is subject to change.*

Ranger-Led Programs in Yosemite Valley

DAY(S)	TIME(S)	PROGRAM	LOCATION	COST
Sa & Su	**10:30 am** (1 hr)	**Ranger Walk: Discovery Walk** Join a ranger for an easy walk and learn more about what makes Yosemite special. Topics vary daily.	outside the Museum (Yosemite Village, use shuttle stop 5)	free (drop-in)
Su,Tu, Th, F	**1 pm** (1 hr)	**The Living Landscape (*until Jan 9)** Meet in front of the Welcome Center for a closer look at what makes Yosemite unique.	outside the Welcome Center (Yosemite Village, use shuttle stop 1/2/4)	free (drop-in)
daily	**2 pm** (15 min)	**Yosemite Nature in a Nutshell** Each day features a different family-friendly topic—animals, rocks, trees, storytelling, or other wonders of Yosemite Valley.	outside the Welcome Center (Yosemite Village, use shuttle stop 1/2/4)	free (drop-in)
some dates*	**3 pm** (45 min)	**Yosemite Shorts and Stories** Enjoy short films, presentations, and performances presented by National Park Service staff. *Program offered Nov 24, 25, 27, 28 & Dec 2, 5, 12, 16, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30	Auditorium behind the Exploration Center (Yosemite Village, use shuttle stop 5)	free (drop-in)

Yosemite Hospitality: Naturalist-Led Walks, Talks, & Tours

For ticketed programs: book at TravelYosemite.com, in-person at the Yosemite Valley Lodge front desk, or by phone at 888/413-8869.

Yosemite Hospitality operates lodging, restaurants, stores, tours, recreation, and other services in Yosemite. Learn more at TravelYosemite.com.

DAY(S)	TIME(S)	PROGRAM	LOCATION	COST
daily	**2 pm** (1 hr)	**Historic Ahwahnee Hotel Tour** Learn about the history behind Yosemite's famous luxury hotel on this complimentary one-hour tour.	Ahwahnee Hotel back lawn (use shuttle stop 3)	free (drop-in)
daily	**3:30 pm** (1 hr)	**Guided Nature Walk** Join a naturalist for an easy guided walk of Yosemite's natural areas.	Ahwahnee Hotel back lawn (use shuttle stop 3)	free (drop-in)
Su, W, Th*	**7 pm** (30 min)	**Evening Program** Yosemite Naturalists present a variety of topics. *no program Dec 2, Dec 16, Dec 30, Jan 20, Jan 21	Yosemite Valley Lodge Cliff Room (between the gift shop & lounge, use shuttle stop 7)	free (drop-in)
nightly	**7:30 pm** (1.5 hrs)	**Yosemite After Dark** Grab a flashlight and join a Yosemite Naturalist for an interactive nature walk at night! Expect to walk about 1.5 miles. *Recommended for kids 11 & up.*	Yosemite Valley Lodge Amphitheater (use shuttle stop 7)	$25/person *book at Travel Yosemite.com*
nightly	**8 pm** (1 hr)	**Walking Starry Skies** Join a Yosemite Hospitality Guide for an unforgettable night of stargazing! *Recommended for kids 11 & up.*	Shuttle stop 6	$25/person *book at Travel Yosemite.com*

Yosemite Hospitality: Bus & Tram Tours

Purchase tickets online at TravelYosemite.com, over the phone at 888/413-8869, or in-person at the Yosemite Valley Lodge front desk.

DAY(S)	TIME(S)	PROGRAM	LOCATION	COST
daily	**10 am & 2 pm** (2 hrs)	**Valley Floor Tour** Experience the highlights of Yosemite Valley on a guided bus tour. *Tour via enclosed bus in winter; open-air trams available late spring to early fall.*	Yosemite Valley Lodge	adults $41.25 kids $28.25
		Glacier Point Tour & Grand Tour Offered from late spring through early fall—visit TravelYosemite.com to plan for 2027.		

Badger Pass Ski Area: Snowshoe Walks & Ski Lessons

The ski area is open when conditions allow—operations rely entirely on real snow! Call the Snow Phone to hear current conditions: 209/372-1000

DAY(S)	TIME(S)	PROGRAM	LOCATION	COST
M, Tu, Sa	**9 am & 1 pm** (3 hrs)	**Moderate Discovery Snowshoe Hike** Discover the wonders of Yosemite's winter environment on this 3-hour hike traversing 3-4-miles in the snow. Due to distance and duration, children must be at least 10 years old to participate and accompanied by an adult.	Badger Pass Nordic Center	$85/person *book at Travel Yosemite.com*
Su, W, F	**9 am** (8 hrs)	**Adventure Snowshoe Hike to Dewey Point** 8 strenuous miles through a conifer forest with spectacular views of El Capitan, Half Dome, and other glacially carved peaks in the High Sierra.	Badger Pass Nordic Center	$125/person *book at Travel Yosemite.com*
daily	**10:15 am & 1 pm** (2hrs)	**Cross-Country Ski Lesson** Discover the art of cross-country skiing in Yosemite! Expert instructors guide you through breathtaking trails, teaching techniques for all skill levels. Includes equipment rental. Private and advanced lessons available upon request (209/372-4996.)	Badger Pass Nordic Center	$90/person *book in-person only*
daily	times vary	**Downhill Skiing & Snowboarding Lessons for Adults & Kids** Visit TravelYosemite.com or inquire at the Badger Pass Nordic Center (209/372-4996.)	Badger Pass Nordic Center	*check Travel Yosemite.com for packages & pricing*
		Ranger-Led Snowshoe Walks Check the Yosemite Valley Welcome Center (or the online calendar: go.nps.gov/yosemitecalendar) for current offerings.		

Yosemite Conservancy: Naturalist-led Programs & Art Classes

Scheduled programs and classes offered spring through fall: visit Yosemite.org.

Yosemite Conservancy is a nonprofit dedicated to preserving Yosemite National Park's resources and providing enriching visitor experiences in the park. This park partner operates the Happy Isles Art & Nature Center (seasonal) and bookstores inside information centers, the Yosemite Exploration Center, and the Mariposa Grove Depot. Learn more at Yosemite.org.

DAY(S)	TIME(S)	PROGRAM	LOCATION	COST
		Naturalist Walks Two-hour walks focused on birding, stargazing and more, *offered March through November*: Yosemite.org/experience/naturalist-walks		
		Outdoor Adventures Check the calendar for guided hikes and backpacking trips, *offered March through October*: Yosemite.org/experience/outdoor-adventures		
		Custom Adventures Plan a Custom Adventure with a naturalist, **offered year-round**: Yosemite.org/custom-adventures		
		Art Classes Classes and retreats, *offered April through October*: Visit Yosemite.org/art		

The Ansel Adams Gallery: Photography Classes & Art Exhibitions

For classes, workshops, and private photography tours, visit AnselAdams.com/photography-education or call 209/372-4413.

The Ansel Adams Gallery is located in Yosemite Village. Experience a variety of fine arts, handcrafts, and a collection of Ansel Adams' original photographs.

DAY(S)	TIME(S)	PROGRAM	LOCATION	COST
Tu & Th	**9 am** (1 hr)	**The Ansel Adams Gallery Photography Walk** Join a staff photographer for a brief field lecture in Yosemite Valley. Limited space; registration required.	The Ansel Adams Gallery (use shuttle stop 5)	free (registration required)
W	**9 am** (3 hrs)	**In the Field: Creative Smartphone Photography** Join a staff photographer to learn how to make better photographs with the camera you always carry.	The Ansel Adams Gallery (use shuttle stop 5)	$95/person
Sa	**1 pm** (3 hrs)	**In the Field: Creative Smartphone Photography** Join a staff photographer to learn how to make better photographs with the camera you always carry.	The Ansel Adams Gallery (use shuttle stop 5)	$95/person
M & Th	**1 pm** (3 hrs)	**In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams** Join a staff photographer for a field class around Yosemite Valley.	The Ansel Adams Gallery (use shuttle stop 5)	$95/person
daily*	**10 am – 4 pm**	**Rotating Art Exhibitions** Drop by the gallery to view art on display. Nov 8 – Jan 9 | *Earth is Home: Palladium over Pigment Photographs by Kerik Kouklis* Jan 10 – Feb 19 | *The Acute Angle: Works on Paper and Canvas by Local Yosemite Artists* *Gallery closed Nov 26 & Dec 25	The Ansel Adams Gallery (use shuttle stop 5)	free (drop-in)

Junior Ranger Program
Programs especially for kids! Kids must be accompanied by an adult.

Recommended for Families
Programs for all ages (good fit for most kids.)

Wheelchair-Accessible
Program or event is held in a wheelchair-accessible facility or uses wheelchair-accessible paths. Ask the program host about other disability accommodations.



Become a Yosemite Junior Ranger!



Pick up a free booklet at an open information center.
Complete the activities while you explore the park, then turn in your book to receive a badge!

Download an Adapted Activities Companion Guide for kids with diverse needs at **go.nps.gov/YJR**

Trails

Yosemite Valley Trails

Stop by the Welcome Center in Yosemite Village for a free trail map. Ask a ranger about current conditions before you go.

	TRAIL	DISTANCE & ELEVATION GAIN	STARTING POINT
	Shorter Walks *Scenic walks that usually take an hour or less*	round-trip	
♿ 🐕	**BRIDALVEIL FALL** Not accessible by shuttle; park along Southside Drive or in the Bridalveil Fall parking area. Stroll the paved path to the base of Bridalveil Fall. A gentle incline leads to a wheelchair-accessible viewing area, while a steeper path climbs closer to the base of the fall. Path may be snowy or icy in winter. *Stay behind barriers. Rocks at the base of the waterfall are very slick and dangerous.*	distance: 0.5 mi, 0.8 km paved with gentle incline	Bridalveil Fall parking area or Southside Drive
♿ 🐕	**LOWER YOSEMITE FALL** (dry in summer & fall) Closest parking at Yosemite Village or Yosemite Falls parking areas. Walk or shuttle to stop 6. A short but rewarding trail to the base of Yosemite Falls. The east side of the loop is wheelchair-accessible and stroller-friendly, but may be icy or snowy in winter. *Stay behind barriers. Rocks at the base of the waterfall are very slick and dangerous.*	distance: 1 mi, 1.6 km paved with gentle incline	Shuttle Stop 6
♿ 🐕	**COOK'S MEADOW LOOP** Closest parking at Yosemite Village or Yosemite Falls parking areas. Walk or shuttle to Stop 6. Take a relaxing, completely flat stroll and enjoy views of Yosemite Falls, Half Dome, and the Merced River. Look and listen for birds and other wildlife in early morning and around dusk. Path may be snowy or icy in winter.	distance: 1 mi, 1.6 km flat pavement/boardwalk	Shuttle Stop 6
🐕*	**MIRROR LAKE** (dry in summer & fall) Closest parking at Curry Village. Walk or shuttle to Stop 17. Walk the paved road from the shuttle stop to the small, seasonal lake at the base of Half Dome. Continue on the unpaved hiking trail for a 4.5 mi (7 km) loop around the lake. **Pets and bikes are allowed ONLY on the paved road.* ♿ *Vehicles with a valid disability placard may drive the paved road to the front of Mirror Lake.*	distance: 2 mi, 3.2 km elev. gain:100 ft, 30 m	Shuttle Stop 17
	Choose Your Own Adventure	round-trip	
🐕	**YOSEMITE VALLEY LOOP TRAIL** *Pets and bicycles NOT allowed.* Enjoy a scenic loop around the entire Valley floor on this quiet, less-traveled trail. Hike a short section, or spend a day exploring the whole trail. Pick up a free trail map at the Welcome Center to plan your trip. *Sections of trail may be flooded or muddy in winter/spring.*	distance: up to 11.5 mi, 18.5 km. Mostly flat, some gentle incline. Uneven terrain.	Most shuttle stops
	Hiking to Vernal Fall & Nevada Fall Several routes are possible through this corridor. All routes start and end at Happy Isles (Shuttle Stop 16.) Closest parking is at Curry Village, then walk or shuttle to Stop 16.	total round-trip (to & from Happy Isles)	Happy Isles; Shuttle Stop 16
🐕	**SHORTEST: Vernal Fall Footbridge (1–1.5 hrs)** Hike the short but VERY steep first section of the John Muir Trail (JMT) for views of Vernal Fall from the footbridge. Return the same way. *Shoe traction and poles recommended.*	distance: 1.6 mi, 2.6 km elev. gain: 380 ft, 115 m	
🐕	**LONGER: Top of Vernal Fall (3–5 hrs)**		
	❄ **Winter Route:** When the lower Mist Trail is closed, use the John Muir Trail to Clark Point. Descend to the top of Vernal Fall. Return the same way. *Shoe traction and poles recommended.*	distance: 5 mi, 8 km elev. gain: 1900 ft, 580 m	
🐕	**LONGEST: Top of Nevada Fall (5–7 hrs)** From the top of Vernal Fall, continue up the Mist Trail to the top of Nevada Fall. Return the same way. *Winter closures may be in effect; check map. Shoe traction and poles recommended.*		
	❄ **Winter Route:** from the top of Vernal Fall, hike the upper Mist Trail to the top of Nevada Fall. Return the same way.	distance: 7.4 mi, 12 km elev. gain: 2750 ft, 840 m	
	Most Challenging Hikes *These all-day hikes include very steep trails and stunning views of Yosemite Valley. Pack sun protection, salty snacks, and at least 3 quarts or liters of water per person.*	round-trip	
🐕	**YOSEMITE FALLS TRAIL (6–8 hrs)** Very steep, rugged trail with dozens of switchbacks. Hike the first mile to Columbia Rock for stunning valley views. Continue to the top of Yosemite Falls; return the same way. *Can be extremely icy in winter. Shoe traction and poles recommended.*	distance: 7.2 mi, 11.6 km elev. gain: 2,700 ft, 820 m	Camp 4 & Shuttle Stop 7
🐕	**FOUR MILE TRAIL TO GLACIER POINT (6–8 hrs)** Very steep trail with spectacular Valley views. Until early October, hiker transportation from Yosemite Valley to Glacier Point may be available via the Glacier Point Tour Bus (drop-offs ONLY, no pickup at Glacier Point): visit TravelYosemite.com for tickets. *Upper portion of trail closes in winter. Can be extremely icy in winter. Shoe traction and poles recommended.*	distance: 9.6 mi, 15.4 km elev. gain: 3,200 ft, 975 m	Shuttle Stop 11

Mariposa Grove Trails

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located near Yosemite's South Entrance, about a one-hour drive from Yosemite Valley. There is no shuttle or vehicle access to the grove in winter. Visitors must hike from the parking area to the grove.

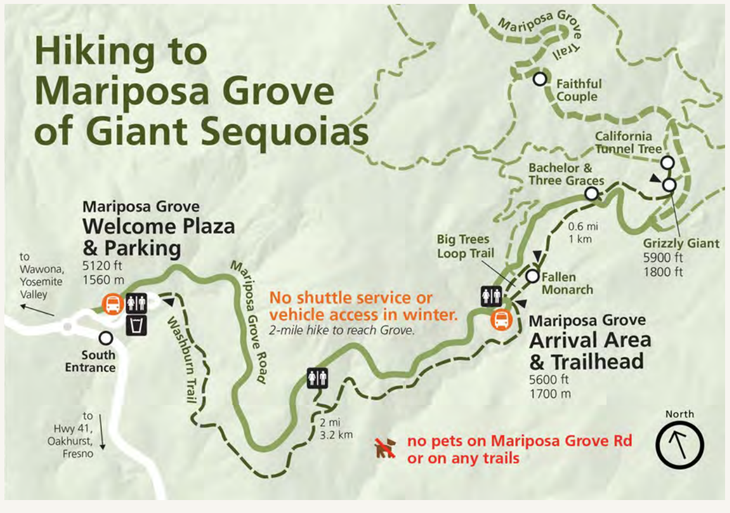
	TRAIL	DISTANCE & ELEVATION GAIN	STARTING POINT
		round-trip	
🐕	**PARKING AREA TO GROVE ARRIVAL AREA/TRAILHEADS (1 hr)** No shuttle or vehicle access to Mariposa Grove in winter. Walk from the parking area on the closed road or on the Washburn Trail (starts at back of parking area.) *Road and trail may be snowy or icy.*	distance: 2 mi, 3.2 km elev. gain: 500 ft, 150 m	Mariposa Grove Parking at South Entrance
🐕	**BIG TREES LOOP TRAIL (30 min)** From the Arrival Area, enjoy a short loop around the front of the Grove. This trail features the Fallen Monarch and interpretive panels on the life and ecology of giant sequoias. *Trail may be snowy or icy.*	distance: 0.3 mi, 0.5 km flat pavement/boardwalk	Mariposa Grove Arrival Area
🐕	**GRIZZLY GIANT & CALIFORNIA TUNNEL TREE (1–2 hrs)** Hike halfway into the Big Trees Loop, then continue straight at the trail junction, following signs for Grizzly Giant. Hike to notable trees such as the Bachelor and Three Graces, the Grizzly Giant, and the California Tunnel Tree. *Trail may be snowy or icy.*	distance: 2 mi, 3.2 km elev. gain: 300 ft, 90 m	Mariposa Grove Arrival Area

♿ wheelchair-accessible, stroller-friendly path or boardwalk. *May be snowy or icy in winter.*

🐕 leashed pets welcome *pets are also allowed on paved bike paths*

🐕 pets NOT allowed





Winter Hiking

Hiking in winter often requires special equipment, extra preparation, and experience traveling and navigating in snow. Even trails that are open in winter might be buried under deep snow or covered in slick ice. Shoe traction devices, poles, skis, or snowshoes might be necessary for a safe and fun adventure.

Consider a scenic stroll around the Valley floor instead, or try out skiing or snowshoeing at Badger Pass (pg 6.)

Before You Hit the Trail

Ask a ranger about trail conditions. Snow, ice, flooding, rockfall, hazardous stream crossings, and trail closures are possible.

Check the weather forecast for rain, snow, and thunderstorms. Stay off domes and other exposed places when there is a chance of lightning.

Pack water (minimum 1 qt/L—per person— for every 2 hours on the trail), salty snacks (for hydration), a headlamp, a map, sturdy footwear, and warm and waterproof clothing layers.

On the Trail

It's dangerous and illegal to approach or feed wildlife. Keep food within arm's reach at all times. Stay 50 yds/m away from bears and 25 ft (8 m) from other wildlife.

Stay on the trail

Pack out all trash, including nut shells, fruit peels, and toilet paper.

It's illegal to remove natural objects or artifacts from the park.

Backpacking Yosemite

A wilderness permit is required year-round for all overnight trips into Yosemite's Wilderness. Visit **go.nps.gov/WildPermits** to learn how to get a permit for this fall and winter—or plan ahead for next summer!

Come prepared with your own allowed bear canister—or rent one at the Valley Welcome Center (9 am – 5 pm.)

Wilderness Permit Self-Registration Locations
Register at the location closest to your trailhead.

- **Valley Trailheads**
  Yosemite Valley Welcome Center
  (outside, kiosk at bottom of steps)
- **Wawona Trailheads**
  Wawona Visitor Center (front porch)
- **Crane Flat & Tioga Trailheads**
  Big Oak Flat Information Station (front porch)
- **Hetch Hetchy Trailheads**
  Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station
- **Badger Pass Winter Trails**
  Badger Pass A-Frame Ranger Station, when conditions allow and road is open to ski area
- **Big Wall Climbing Permits (for overnight climbs)**
  Kiosk near shuttle stop 9

Half Dome Permits

Half Dome cables are down for the winter. A permit is required 7 days a week when the cables are up (late May to early October.) Permits are available by pre-season (March 1–31) and daily lotteries. Visit **go.nps.gov/HDpermits**