COVID-19 Coronavirus

UPDATE

Wearing a mask is required in federal buildings and outdoors on federal land when social distancing cannot be maintained. Check local resources, area signage, and our park website for updates, www.nps.gov/yose.

Please follow CDC guidance to reduce the spread of COVID-19:

• Maintain 6 feet of distance between you and others.
• Wear a face covering when social distancing is not possible.
• Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
• Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
• Stay home if you feel sick.
• Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Day-use reservations may be required: go.nps.gov/covid

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Guide May 12, 2021 - June 15, 2021

Drive, walk, or bike to some of Yosemite Valley’s most scenic attractions!

1. Tunnel View
2. Cook’s Meadow
3. Lower Yosemite Fall Trailhead
4. Valley View

Large vehicles longer than 30 feet will not be permitted on Sentinel Drive. Also, expect traffic re-routes through Summer 2021. See park website for more information.

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Day-use reservations may be required: go.nps.gov/covid

The Yosemite Valley Shuttle System will not be operating during the Spring 2021 season.
How Will COVID-19 Impact My Visit?

Following guidance from federal, state, and local public health authorities and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we are increasing access and services in a phased approach at Yosemite National Park. Visit the park website, www.nps.gov/yose, for more updates and safety information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currently open and available</th>
<th>Not open or available at this time</th>
<th>Unavailable in early 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An outdoor visitor contact station is located behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.</td>
<td>Visitor Centers are closed until further notice.</td>
<td>All shuttles and tours are canceled during this time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most roads and trails are open. Some trails may be closed or re-routed.</td>
<td>Some campgrounds are currently closed.</td>
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<td>There is no first come, first served camping.</td>
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<tr>
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What Does 6-ft Foot Look Like? The wing span of a bald eagle is roughly 6 feet long. While social distancing, imagine the length of a soaring eagles’ wing span between you and others.

Additionally, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, and most importantly, stay home if you feel sick.

How to Protect Yourself

Practice social distancing. Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet between you and others.

Wash hands using soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer frequently.

Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.

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How to Protect Others

Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.

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Entering a National Park

Yosemite is a place where wilderness prevails. Prepare yourself for a wild experience. The National Park Service is bound by its mission to protect Yosemite’s natural and cultural resources for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. Please, be attentive to the natural and cultural resources along the road.

Why: To make safety improvements and manage roadside parking and traffic flow while preserving natural and cultural resources along the road.

Bridalveil Fall Rehabilitation Project

The base of Bridalveil Fall and surrounding area, and to protect natural and cultural resources in the area.

When: 2020 - 2021

Visitor Impact: Trail, comfort station and parking lot may not be available due to construction.

Tioga Road Rehabilitation Plan

Why: To make safety improvements and manage roadbed parking and traffic flow while preserving natural and cultural resources along the road.

When: 2020 and 2021 seasons

Visitor Impact: 30-minute traffic delays along Tioga Road due to construction.

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THINGS TO DO IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

Custom Yosemite Experiences

Join a Yosemite Conservancy naturalist guide or art instructor for a customized experience that fits your interests and schedule.

Custom Adventures: Experience the park on personalized day hikes, birding walks, stargazing programs and backpacking trips.

yosemite.org/custom-adventures.

Custom Art Classes: Explore nature through drawing, painting, sketching and journaling.

We also offer creative activities for kids!

yosemite.org/custom-art.

Looking for ways to connect with Yosemite from home? Contact us to schedule a virtual adventure or art class: adventures@yosemite.org or art@yosemite.org.

Walking and Hiking

Yosemite Valley has plenty of year-round walking and hiking possibilities. Stop by the outdoor visitor contact station behind the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for trail maps and updated weather and trail conditions.

Bicycling

Experience several miles of bicycle paths that wind through Yosemite Valley. Use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Village, Yosemite Valley Lodge or Curry Village, conditions permitting. See page 6 for Bike Stand hours. Or, see page 4 to learn about the Yosemite Bike Share program. Bicycles are only allowed on paved roads and paved bike paths.

Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center

The Sierra Club’s Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly Le Conte Memorial Lodge) will not open this season, from May 1 through September 30, 2021, due to COVID-19. All evening programs have been cancelled for the season due to social distancing requirements. The Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center will reopen on May 1, 2022. Call 209/347-7300 for information and updates.
Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees
Non-commercial car, truck, RV, or van with 15 or fewer passenger seats
(No per-person fee)
Vehicle Valid for 7 days $35/vehicle
Motorcycle Valid for 7 days $30/motorcycle
Individual Valid for 7 days $10 (in a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse),
Yosemite Pass $70 Valid for one year in Yosemite,
Interagency Annual Pass $80 Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.
Interagency Senior Pass $80 (Lifetime) For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.
Interagency Annual Senior Pass $20 For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.
Interagency Access Pass (Free) (Lifetime) For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
Interagency Military Pass (Free) (Annual) For active duty U.S. military and dependents.
U.S. Military Veterans (Free) Must present suitable ID
Gold Star Families (Free) Must present paper voucher
Interagency 4th Grade Pass (Free) Must present paper voucher.
U.S. 5th Grade Voucher (Free) Must present paper voucher.

Reservations
Campground Reservations (877) 444-6777; www.recreation.gov
Lodging Reservations (888) 413-8869 www.travelyosemite.com
Group Sales Office: (888) 339-3481
Regional Info
Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) www.yarts.com
Highway 120 West
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce (800) 448-9120 or (209) 962-0429
Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau (209) 446-1333; www.tcvb.com
Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau (559) 683-4636; www.yosemitethisyear.com
Highway 122/49
Coulterville Visitor Center (209) 878-3329
Highway 140/49
California Welcome Center, Merced (800) 446-5353 or (209) 724-8104 www.yosemite-gateway.org
Mariposa County Visitor Center (866) 425-3366 or (209) 966-7081
Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau (209) 742-4567; www.yosemite.com
Highway 120 East
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center, (760) 647-6629, www.leevining.com

Walking Yosemite Valley
We strongly recommend moving around the east end of Yosemite Valley on foot or bike if possible. On the map below, the numbers in the white circles show the average walking time between each destination, represented by the red circles.

Average Walking Times
Walking Routes
Campground
Parking
Picnic Area
Restroom
Walk-in Campground

Yosemite Valley Walking Map
Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley, open year-round, is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. Get there via Highway 41/Wawona Road from Fresno, Highway 140/El Portal Road from Merced, Highway 120 west/Big Oak Flat Road from Manteca, and (during summer) via the Tioga Road/Highway 120 east from Lee Vining. Yosemite Valley is home to massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls slows to a trickle by August, a moderate hike will bring you to impressive Vernal and Nevada Falls. Walk to Mirror Lake, where you will see reflections of Half Dome. Gaze up at El Capitan, a massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the valley by foot, bike, car, or tour, you will behold scenery that will leave you breathless and eager to see what's around the next corner.

Glacier Point Road

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and Yosemite’s high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley or Wawona. To get there from either of these places, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41) to Chinquapin, then turn onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating—some might say unnerving—view 3,214 feet down to Yosemite Valley below.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park’s South Entrance. 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.

Tioga Road and Tuolumne Grove

Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. It is usually open from late May or early June through November. The road’s elevation ranges from 6,200 feet to nearly 10,000 feet. The White Wolf area, midway across the park, is the starting point for day hikes to Lukens Lake and Harden Lake. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking area on the Tioga Road, and walk one steep mile down to the grove. Or park at Merced Grove trailhead on Big Oak Flat Road and walk 1.5 steep miles down to the grove. These groves are smaller than the more-famous Mariposa Grove, but are quieter and off-limits to vehicles. Remember, walking down is easier than walking back up.

Tuolumne Meadows

Tuolumne Meadows provides a glimpse of the High Sierra. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by even higher granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. Stop at the Tuolumne Meadows information center to find out about hikes to Cathedral Lakes, Elizabeth Lake, Lembert Dome, or along the Tuolumne River through Lyell Canyon. See page 6 for hiking suggestions.

Hetch Hetchy

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. The area’s low elevation makes it a good place to hike in autumn and winter. The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles (1 ¼ hour) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from 8am to 5pm. Vehicles and/or trailers over 25 feet long, and RV’s and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not permitted on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.
Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Valley
Information, Art, and Exhibits

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore
A visitor contact station is available behind the visitor center for information and updates from 9am to 5pm. The Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore will operate as an outdoor “to-go” store, daily from 9am to 5pm.

YOSEMITE THEATER
Closed Spring and Summer of 2021

Yosemite Museum
Closed Spring and Summer of 2021

INDIAN CULTURAL VILLAGE
Walk through the reconstructed Indian Village of Ahwahnee and learn about the structures the Ahwahneechee lived in and the plants they used for survival. Check out the interactive displays and see the ceremonial roundhouse, bark houses, and sweathouse of the local tribes still actively use for ceremonies and special gatherings. Located behind the Yosemite Museum in Yosemite Village.

YOSEMITE RENAISSANCE ART EXHIBIT
Yosemite Renaissance has supported the arts in Yosemite since 1985. If you are an artist inspired by Yosemite and the California Sierra Nevada region, this is the show for you! The competition is open to artists word-wide and offers $4000 in cash awards. The organization seeks to encourage the public to protect and preserve our parks and wild lands through art. The exhibit will open at Yosemite Gateway Art Center in Oakhurst in March, Kings Art Center in Hanford in June, Carnegie Arts Center in Turlock in August, and the Yosemite Museum Gallery in October. Visit www.yosemiterenaisson.com to learn more.

Yosemite Conservancy ADVENTURES AND ART CLASSES
Join Yosemite Conservancy for a memorable park experience! Permits/guidance is required for all Conservancy adventures and art classes.

Outdoor Adventures: Our naturalist guides lead day hikes, backpacking trips, art retreats and more. Register: yosemite.org/adventures.

- June 17-20  Backpack: Glen Aulin
- June 25-27  Intro Backpack: Southern Yosemite Waterfalls

Naturalist Walks: Join a naturalist for a stroll in the Valley. Register: yosemite.org/adventures. Fees per person apply.

- Wednesdays
  - 9am-11am: A Stroll Through Time $10
  - 12pm-2pm: Stagenouch Stories $10
  - 9pm-10pm: Explore Yosemite’s Night Skies $25

- Thursdays
  - 10am-12pm: Classic Naturalist Walk $10
  - 1pm–3pm: Nature Journaling $15
  - 9pm-10pm: Explore Yosemite’s Night Skies $25

- Fridays
  - 10am-12pm: Classic Naturalist Walk $10
  - 1pm–3pm: Nature Journaling $15
  - 9pm-10pm: Explore Yosemite’s Night Skies $25

Art Classes: Outdoor art classes meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center every weekday (Monday–Friday, 10am to 2pm) through October, and are taught by professional artists. Please register in advance: yosemite.org/art.

- May 10-14  Watercolor with Grace Fong
- May 17-21  Watercolor with Rachel Fisher
- May 24-28  Watercolor with Faith Rumm
- May 31-June 4 Watercolor with Robert DeWark
- June 7-11  Watercolor with Rita Randolph
- June 14-18  Drawing & Painting Yosemite’s Leaves with Sue Pierston

Art Retreats: Looking to stretch your creative muscles for a little longer? Join artist and alpinist Nikki Frumkin for a three-day Painting the Peaks art retreat (June 9–12 & June 21–24) to experience Yosemite Valley’s seasonal beauty while capturing the landscape in watercolor and ink.

Learn more about all our upcoming programs in the park: yosemite.org/experience.

The Ansel Adams Gallery
The Ansel Adams Gallery is open seven days per week from 10am to 3pm. We are located in the heart of Yosemite Valley, between the Visitor Center and main Post Office. Join us on an unforgettable photography excursion, or step inside the Gallery to experience a unique variety of fine arts, hand-crafts, and an extraordinary collection of Ansel Adams original photographs and exclusive editions. We offer half-day photography classes and private guided tours led by a resident staff photographer. Classes leave from the Gallery every day and require reservations. Private guides are first-come first-serve and require advance reservations. Excursions have been modified to limit group size and accommodate social distancing for guest safety. Call ahead for reservations: 209-372-4413 or visit anseladams.com/photographyeducation.

Current Exhibition
Ansel Adams & The Spirit of Yosemite
April 1, 2021 - June 5, 2021
On exhibition will be a selection of rare and iconic original photographs by Ansel Adams that celebrate his life’s work, his passion for the arts and environment and the Spirit of Yosemite.

Yosemite Bike Share
The free Yosemite Bike Share will open for the season in late spring, depending on weather and road safety. When it opens, you can use the bike share for short trips (up to two hours) in Yosemite Valley.

1. Get connected: Download the Yosemite Bike Share mobile app for Apple/IOS or Android in advance.
2. Get a bike: Use the app to unlock a bike at one of the Yosemite Bike Share stations, located at the Yosemite Village Parking Area and on the Village mall (between the Valley Wilderness Center and the Valley Visitor Center).
3. Get pedaling: Ride safely! Use the helmet provided with the bike (or wear your own) and stay on roads and paved bike paths.

Visit yosemite.org/yosemite-bike-share to learn more about this program, see a map of bike paths and plan your routes.
All available operations and hours of operations are subject to change. Check local resources and area signage in light of changing public health requirements related to COVID-19.

### Services in Yosemite

#### Schedule

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<td>Degnan's Kitchen</td>
<td>7am to 11am, 11:30am to 6pm</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bar 1899</td>
<td>12pm to 8pm, 12pm to 9pm beginning May 28</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Starbucks Coffee</td>
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### Books, Gifts, & Apparel

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<tr>
<td><strong>YOSEMITE VILLAGE</strong></td>
<td>Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore</td>
<td>9am to 5pm daily</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Yosemite Valley Visitor Center</td>
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<td>Bike Stand</td>
<td>8am to 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yosemite Mountaineering School</td>
<td>8:30am to 12pm, 1pm to 4:30pm, beginning May 21</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>CRANE FLAT</strong></td>
<td>Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### General Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>YOSEMITE VILLAGE</strong></td>
<td>Medical Clinic - Yosemite Valley</td>
<td>209/372-4657, Emergency: CALL 9-1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>YOSEMITE VILLAGE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Main Office</td>
<td>Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm, Closed during federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bike Stand</td>
<td>8am to 6pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Post Offices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>YOSEMITE VILLAGE</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bike Stand</td>
<td>Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>CURRY VILLAGE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bike Stand</td>
<td>8am to 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>WAWONA</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bike Stand</td>
<td>8am to 6pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Religious Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>SUNDAY - CHAPEL SERVICES</strong></td>
<td>9:15am – Year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11am – Memorial Day to Labor Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Subject to Covid-19 policies. Please call the chapel for current information before you travel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHURCH OF CHRIST</strong></td>
<td>Non-denominational</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No meetings at this time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oakhurst Hotline: 559/683-1662</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COVID-19 Coronavirus**

All available operations and hours of operations are subject to change. Check local resources and area signage in light of changing public health requirements related to COVID-19.
Hiking

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Fall - CLOSED due to Construction</td>
<td>Bridalveil Fall Parking Area</td>
<td>0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Across from Yosemite Valley Lodge</td>
<td>1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock</td>
<td>Camp 4, across from Yosemite Valley Lodge</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 2-3 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Upper Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7.2 miles round-trip, 6-8 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror Lake (A seasonal lake)</td>
<td>East of North Pines Campground</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernal Fall Footbridge</td>
<td>Happy Isles</td>
<td>1.4 miles round-trip, 1-2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate, 450-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Vernal Fall</td>
<td>Happy Isles</td>
<td>3 miles round-trip, 2-4 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>Happy Isles</td>
<td>5 miles round-trip, 5-6 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous 1,500-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Partially closed in winter)</td>
<td>Southside Drive</td>
<td>4.8 miles one-way, 3-4 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous 5,200-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Floor Loop</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Trailhead</td>
<td>13 miles full loop, 5-7 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Trails may be closed due to unsafe conditions. Ask a ranger for current conditions and heed all warning and closure signs!

Choose Your Adventure

What better way to enjoy the beauty of Yosemite than on foot. Ask a ranger at any visitor contact station for updated trail conditions and one of several free day-hike handouts.

COVID-19 Coronavirus

PARK UPDATE

• Please practice social distancing while walking on trails.
• Expect trail closures.
• Some trails may be re-routed to accommodate social distancing protocol. Please comply with all posted signs.
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• Expect trail closures.
• Some trails may be re-routed to accommodate social distancing protocol. Please comply with all posted signs.

Know Before You Go:

• Stay away from swift-moving water
• Always supervise children closely.
• Never swim upstream from a waterfall.

Hikes in Wawona Area

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 interpretive signs explain how Yosemite was the inspiration for national parks across America and around the world.

Mariposa Grove
Located near Yosemite’s South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is the park’s largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees in the grove. Shuttles will not operate during the 2021 season, expect a two-mile, one-way walk to reach the grove. Interpretive signs provide a self-guiding tour once in the grove.

Walks/Hikes in Wawona Area

HIKES IN CRANE FLAT AREA

Tuolumne Grove
The trailhead for this grove of about 25 sequoias is near the intersection of the Big Oak Flat Road and Tioga Road at Crane Flat. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from the parking area into the grove. The trail drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the uphill return to the parking lot. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. There is no potable water at the parking area or in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you.

Merced Grove
Yosemite’s quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of approximately 20 big trees accessible only on foot. It’s a three-mile round-trip hike (about three hours) into the grove. The trail drops down 1.5 miles making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. There is no potable water at the parking area or down in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trail is marked by a sign and a post labeled B-10.

HIKING IN TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin and Soda Springs
Two trails, both flat and 3/4 mile-long, lead to this historic area accessible only by walking. The Soda Springs are small, naturally carbonated springs that attract deer, birds and other wildlife. There is a toilet in the area.

There are many day hikes in this area. Stop by the visitor center for maps and ideas.
• Thank you for staying on official trails to protect fragile meadow ecosystems.
• Dogs, bicycles, and strollers are only allowed on roads that are open to public vehicle traffic.
• There are no toilets on the trails. Day-hikers and backpackers must go at least 100 feet away from water, trail and camp areas; bury human waste six inches deep and pack out ALL trash.
Wilderness Permits

Wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Following adaptive management guidelines and the need to protect the health and safety of our visitors and employees, there will be no first come, first served (FCFS) permits issued in the park for 2020. The FCFS quota will be available through a rolling lottery using the advanced reservation system. Please go to www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits to check trailhead availability and for more information on how to apply for these permits. Reservations can be made online at yosemite.org/wilderness-permit-request-form and by using our contact form at yosemite.org/contact-us-wilderness. A processing fee of $5 per permit plus $5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm, the Leave No Trace website at www.lnt.org, or the Friends of Yosemite Search and Rescue website at www.friendsofyear.org

YOSEMITE VALLEY

Open daily from 8am to 5pm. Under COVID modified operations, the center offers permit reservation pick up and bear canister rentals only. The Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village, between the post office and the Ansel Adams Gallery.

WAWONA

Beginning May 21, Hill’s Studio will be open daily from 8am to 5pm. Under COVID modified operations, the center offers permit reservation pick up and bear canister rentals only. 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.

BIG OAK FLAT

Beginning May 21, the information station will be open daily from 8am to 5pm. Under COVID modified operations, the center offers permit reservation pick up and bear canister rentals only. The center is located just inside the park entrance on Hwy 120W.

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

The wilderness center is scheduled to open along with the Tioga Road. Please check the park website for hours of operation. Under COVID modified operations, the center offers permit reservation pick up and bear canister rentals only. The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center is located south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadows Lodge.

HETCH HETCHY

Open daily from 8am to 5pm. Under COVID modified operations, only permit reservation pick up and bear canister rentals are available at the entrance station.

Half Dome Permits

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up for 2021, May 28 through October 11, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 preseason lottery permits have already been issued for 2021. Additional day use permits will be released by daily lottery throughout the season. Applications for daily lotteries will be accepted 2 days prior to the desired hiking date between midnight and 1pm. To apply, visit Recreation.gov or call 877/444-6777. A non-refundable application fee applies to all submissions and a use fee applies to winning applicants. Finally, a daily quota of 75 Half Dome permits will be available to overnight users with an appropriate wilderness permit (use fee applies). These permits may be acquired through early reservations (50 per day) or the rolling lottery system (25 per day). Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area may descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit. More information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm. For backpackers more information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdwildpermits.htm.

Camping Reservations

For the 2021 season, campgrounds that will be open are Upper, Lower and North Pines, Wawona, Bridalveil Creek and Tuolumne Meadows. Campground reservations are available up to five months in advance and are released on the 15th of each month at 7am Pacific time. Log onto the website or call as soon as possible as most campgrounds fill within a few minutes of the opening period. Camp 4 will be available via a one-day-in-advance lottery on recreation.gov, and each site will be assigned to only one party.

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.

Sleeping in vehicles and frontcountry camping are only permitted in designated campites.

COVID-19 Coronavirus

PARK UPDATE

• Camping during the 2021 season is by reservation only.
• Same day availability must be accessed via recreation.gov as there is no walk-up service.
• There is no first come, first served camping.
• Group sites are not available this year.

General Camping Information

Services
• All sites include picnic tables, firepits with grill, and a food locker. See page 9 for food storage regulations.
• Shower and laundry facilities are not available during the 2021 season.

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 10pm to 6am.
• Where permitted, pets must be on a leash and may not be left unattended
• Firewood collection of dead and down wood is permitted within the boundaries of campgrounds in Yosemite Valley, and can otherwise be gathered anywhere in the park that is outside Yosemite Valley, below 9,600 feet, and not in a sequoia grove.

Zero Landfill Initiative: Propane Canisters

Exciting news, campers: You can now buy reusable, returnable Little Kamper propane canisters in Yosemite, including at The Village Store, Curry Village Gift Shop, Mountain Shop, Wawona Store and El Portal Market. Here’s how it works:

1. Purchase a canister.
2. Use up the fuel.
3. Bring the canister back to any store that carries Little Kamper propane.
4. Trade in your empty canister for a full one at a lower price.

In alliance with the Zero Landfill Initiative, Yosemite Conservancy, the National Park Service and Yosemite Hospitality are working together to reduce improper disposal of single-use propane canisters and send less waste to our local landfill. Help us by doing your part!

*This project was made possible in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation through the generous support of Sulaco of America.
Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park

Protecting yourself...

Keep yourself safe while exploring your park

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

A SEASON OF TRANSITION

Spring weather is some of our finest for enjoying outdoor activities. Nevertheless, cold fronts can bring snow as low as the Valley floor well into May. The higher country is noticeably cooler. In summary, while you are likely to enjoy pleasant weather, check the latest forecast and be prepared for cold and wet conditions and always be ready to add layers of clothing to stay warm and dry.

For all seasons, keep a good map and compass (or GPS) and always know your location.

NAVIGATION

Snow blanketed terrain can quickly cause disorientation. Winter specific trails are marked with a blaze. Always keep at least one marker or reference point in sight. Carry a good map and compass (or GPS) and always know your location.

YOSEMITE’S ROADS

Snow and ice, while less frequent than late winter, remain a possibility. Plan for all potential road conditions; call ahead to our recorded number 209/372-0200 to learn of any restrictions.

NAVIGATION

Snow and ice, while less frequent than late winter, remain a possibility. Plan for all potential road conditions; call ahead to our recorded number 209/372-0200 to learn of any restrictions.

FOR ALL SEASONS

• Let someone know – always leave travel and hiking plans, including intended routes and estimated time of return, with a trusted person.
• Stay on established trails
• River, streams and lakes can be hazardous all year. Maintain awareness and crossing water should only be attempted where it is safe.
• Regardless of season you still need to stay hydrated and snack frequently! If you are sweating, replace lost salts with salty snacks.
• 10 hiking essentials – includes sunglasses, sunscreen, a signaling mirror and whistle.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Rain and melting snow fill our rivers and streams to their greatest volume and flow velocity in spring, creating beautiful accents in sight and sound to Yosemite’s landscape.

Do not be fooled. Currents are too forceful for the strongest swimmers to survive even a shallow water plunge. Waters that appear still and green can have powerful unseen currents. The granite rocks in and near the water are slippery. In short, stay away from river and streambanks where a simple slip can have disastrous consequences and never attempt a water crossing except in safe and designated areas.

Granite rocks and boulders near rivers and waterfalls, wet or dry, are extremely slippery. To avoid injury, please do not leave the safety of the trail.

Yosemite’s Trails

Know before you go! Some trails and trail segments may be closed due to weather or other hazards, check ahead at the visitor center during business hours and obey all signage. All trails can be icy or wet—use tools that are helpful to you! Trekking poles, crampons, or other footwear traction can help with preventing a serious fall.

Hantavirus Information

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is a rare but serious disease spread to humans via the droppings, urine, or saliva of infected rodents. Infected rodents have been found throughout the US. You may come into close proximity to rodents during your visit. Here are some ways to protect yourself:

• If staying in guest lodging, tell housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice.
• Keep doors to guest lodging shut.
• Do not bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container.
• If camping or backpacking, do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings.

For more information visit: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm

Plague

Plague is an infectious bacterial disease carried by squirrels, chipmunks and other rodents and their fleas. To protect yourself, never feed wildlife, avoid dropping food when eating outside, avoid pitching a tent near rodent burrows, wear insect repellent with DEET, and immediately tell a park ranger if you see a dead animal. For more information visit: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm

Wilderness Etiquette: How to Poop in the Woods

• When nature calls, make sure you are 200 feet away from any water source.
• Carry a trowel so you can dig a hole in the dirt that is at least 6 inches deep so you’re able to bury your waste.
• In the winter, human waste still needs to be buried 6 inches deep in soil not snow or carried out in a WAG bag.
• Pack out toilet paper, don’t bury it or try to burn it.

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Granite rocks and boulders near rivers and waterfalls, wet or dry, are extremely slippery. To avoid injury, please do not leave the safety of the trail.
Keep Bears Wild

With warmer spring weather, bears emerge hungry from hibernation. Please, keep Yosemite’s black bears wild and alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

STORE YOUR FOOD PROPERLY

The typical daily diet of most bears may consist of 4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, acorns, and grubs. It’s easier for a bear to eat the thousands of calories of food in an ice chest than it is to spend all day nipping on 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 see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

DRIVE THE SPEED LIMIT

The most common human-related cause of death for a black bear in Yosemite is being hit by a car. Slow down! Driving too fast is almost always the cause of these accidental deaths. Please report bear sightings by calling (209) 372-0322.

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 are 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. Report bear sightings and incidents to the Save-A-Bear hotline (209)372-0322 or by emailing yose_bear_mgmt@nps.gov. For more information about bears in Yosemite please visit www.keepbearswild.org.

How to Store Food

“Food” includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This includes items you may not consider food, such as canned goods, bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unwashed dishes.

LOCATION

FOOD STORAGE

WHY?

Your Vehicle

You may store food in your car (both 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 may store food in your food locker (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 latch them 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.

Clean water is a precious resource for all living beings -

You can protect these waters and this pristine watershed which supplies drinking water for 2.7 million people.

• Protect fragile plants and soils: Trampling vegetation and compressing soils affects the movement and cleanliness of water.

• Walk and camp on durable surfaces: Use established trails, campsites, rock, and gravel to minimize your impact. Walk single file and keep groups small.

• Pack it in, pack it out: Pack out toilet paper, hygiene products, leftover food, trash, and litter from campsites, rest areas, and trails. Leave no trace!

• Wash yourself or dishes 200 feet away from water sources.

• Use restroom facilities or bury human waste. Bury human waste in a hole at least 6 inches (15 centimeters) deep and at least 200 feet (60 meters) from streams and lakes.

Yosemite Guardians

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park’s most important guardians. During your visit, be aware that there are people who either unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

• Feeding or approaching wildlife

• Collecting plants

• Hunting animals

• Collecting reptiles and butterflies

• Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads

• Using metal detectors

• Driving vehicles into meadows

• Biking off of paved roads

• Camping outside of designated campgrounds

• Possession of weapons inside federal facilities

• Possessing or using marijuana, including medical marijuana

• Operating an unmanned aircraft system (“drone”)

If you see activities that could harm people or park resources, jot down any descriptions or a vehicle license plate number and call (209) 379-1992.
What draws you to Yosemite National Park? Is it the stunning scenery? How about the park’s outdoor recreational opportunities? Yosemite certainly offers some of the finest scenery and recreation anywhere. However, the very features that draw us to this outdoor paradise can also threaten our safety and health.

Every year, trained park rangers respond to more than 200 search and rescue (SAR) calls within the park. SARs range from dehydrated hikers to water emergencies to ground level falls to lost hikers. More important than what happens is what you can do to enjoy your Yosemite experience and not become the subject of a SAR. Because the park contains hazards of which not every visitor is aware, Yosemite developed a Preventive Search and Rescue (PSAR) program to help visitors understand and avoid unsuspected hazards. However, even though PSAR seeks to prevent injuries and illnesses, the constant which remains is that you are responsible for your safety.

PSAR is staffed almost entirely by volunteers whose primary goal is enhancing visitors’ experience by preventing SARs. You can recognize PSAR volunteers by their yellow t-shirts and green ball caps. They patrol trails, river banks, and other areas where visitors frequent. PSAR volunteers not only provide safety advice, they are there to answer your questions and give directions. While on patrol, volunteers help with chores ranging from picking up litter to helping reunite separated hiking parties. Several PSAR volunteers have advanced training and certifications as SAR technicians, emergency medical technicians, and wildland fire fighters.

PSAR volunteers provide safety messages. What are the messages that our volunteers find themselves discussing with visitors? Number one is to stay on the trail or developed areas. Yosemite’s most serious injuries occur when someone leaves the trail. Hikers sometimes abandon the trail to approach Yosemite’s unforgiving waters. Accidental slips too close to the water have caused disastrous consequences. Other hikers have left the trail to seek a shortcut and have become lost or ended up in dangerously steep terrain. Off trail travel is not only dangerous but it also permanently damages vegetation. Trails promote safety and protect our scenery.

Another frequent and necessary PSAR message is to always have plenty of water and salty, easy-to-digest snacks. Yosemite’s most common SAR calls are from hikers who are dehydrated, exhausted, or have fallen causing a broken bone, sprain, or dislocation. Lots of ground level falls are probably secondary to diminished physical performance from being dehydrated or exhausted. Although most of these on-trail SARs are not life threatening, they are miserable and often extremely painful experiences and a sure recipe to destroy an otherwise perfect vacation.

How do you avoid becoming one of Yosemite’s on-trail SAR statistics? Drink lots of water. One quart or liter of water for every two to three hours of physical activity is reasonable but do not ration water and when your water is half gone, your hike should be past the half way point. Frequently enjoy light salty snacks to replace salts lost through sweating. Also, hike within your physical limitations. Do not let your brain write checks that your body cannot cash; the fastest and fittest person should not set the pace.

The most important measure you can take is your preparation before you start out for your activity. There is plenty of easy to locate Yosemite information in the visitor centers, book stores, and reliable websites including the Yosemite website at https://www.nps.gov/yose. Goals are fine but how much effort is it going to take to reach your destination and what will you need to pack? It is important to know distance but also know how much elevation you need to gain; the higher up you are, the faster you will tire which will degrade your performance and judgment. Always check the latest weather forecast. Did you leave your hiking plan, which includes your route, destination, and when you are due to return, with a reliable person? Just a little pre-planning for your park adventure can make the difference between a terrific outing and a miserable experience.

Back to Yosemite’s PSAR volunteers, please say “hi” if you encounter one. They are giving their own time to promote your Yosemite experience. Most of all, do stay safe and healthy and enjoy your Yosemite experience.
Enhance the Visitor Experience

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

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

The Ansel Adams Gallery

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

Yosemite Hospitality LLC

Yosemite Hospitality, a subsidiary of Aramark, operates lodging, food and beverage, retail, recreational activities, tours, interpretive programs, transportation, and service stations under contract with the U.S. Department of Interior with a focus on delivering authentic and memorable guest experiences. Yosemite Hospitality is committed to providing park stewardship in collaboration with the National Park Service in effort to protect and preserve the park for millions of park visitors to enjoy. Visit www.TravelYosemite.com for more information.

NatureBridge

NatureBridge provides residential field science programs for youth in the world’s most spectacular classroom—Yosemite National Park. Through active student engagement, our faculty teaches science, history, and the arts and gives these subjects context through personal experience. A NatureBridge learning adventure strives to foster a lifelong connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it. Find out more about our year-round programs for schools and summer programs for individual teens at www.naturebridge.org/yosemite

Yosemite Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy inspires people to support projects and programs that preserve Yosemite National Park and enrich the visitor experience for all. Thanks to generous donors, the Conservancy has provided over $140 million in grants to the park to restore trails and habitat, protect wildlife, provide educational programs, and more. The Conservancy’s guided adventures, volunteer opportunities, wilderness services and bookstores help visitors of all ages connect with Yosemite. Learn more: yosemite.org or 415/434-1782.

Yosemite Volunteers: Serving Yosemite

Over 10,374 volunteers donated more than 139,500 hours of service to Yosemite last year, restoring native habitat, working in visitor centers, serving as camp hosts, studying wildlife, cleaning up litter and more. Would you like to serve? We have group and individual volunteer opportunities, both short term and long term. Learn more at: www.nps.gov/yose/getinvolved/volunteer.htm or call the volunteer office at 209/379-1850.

Lose Something in Yosemite?

To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite’s restaurants, hotels, or lounges, call 209/372-4357. For items lost or found in other areas of the park, call 209/379-1001 or email yose_lostandfound@nps.gov

Call Us

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9039 Village Drive
Yosemite, CA 95389
(209) 372-0200
http://www.nps.gov/yose/contacts.htm

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National Park Service App

Search “National Park Service” in the app stores or use the QR code.