



Yosemite Guide

NPS Photo / Adrienne Freeman



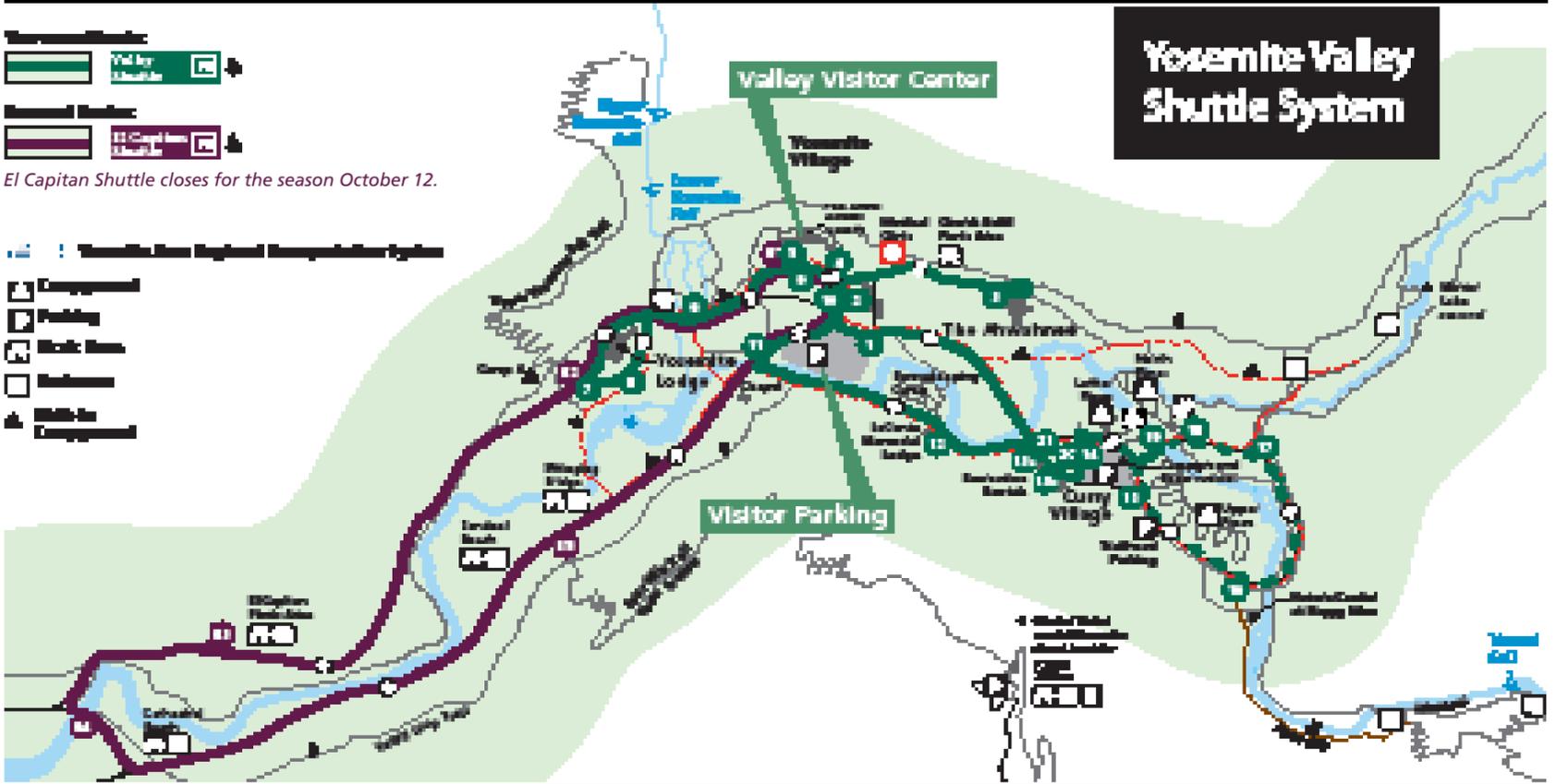
Volume 39, Issue 8



Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Guide October 8 - December 9, 2014

Yosemite Valley Shuttle System



- Valley Shuttle
- El Capitan Shuttle
- Yosemite Valley Regional Transportation System

El Capitan Shuttle closes for the season October 12.

- Valley Shuttle
- El Capitan Shuttle
- Yosemite Valley Regional Transportation System

The valley visitor shuttle operates from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day with stops in numerous locations throughout the valley. The El Capitan shuttle operates from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily during summer season only. **El Capitan Shuttle closes for the season October 12.**

| Stop # | Location | Shuttle Icon | Location | Shuttle Icon | Location | Shuttle Icon |
|--------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Visitor Parking | | Yosemite Lodge | | Happy Isles | |
| 2 | Yosemite Village | | Sequoia Bridge | | Mirror Lake Trolley | |
| 3 | The Ahwahnee | | LeConte / Housekeeping Camp | | Stables | |
| 4 | Daguer's Dell | | Recreation Area | | Pinnacles Campgrounds | |
| 5 | Valley Visitor Center | | Curry Village | | El Capitan Picnic Area | |
| 6 | Lower Yosemite Fall | | Curry Village Parking | | El Capitan Bridge | |
| 7 | Camp 4 | | Upper Pines Campground | | Four Mile Trailhead | |

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Seasonal Highlights

Keep this Guide with you to get the most out of your visit

Fall and winter in Yosemite National Park provide memorable experiences and unique perspectives to those who visit this time of year. The golden lighting of the evening hours accentuate the fall colors in Yosemite Valley, while a fresh blanket of snow creates a magical wonderland. What remarkable treasures will you find during your visit to Yosemite this fall and winter? Here are some ideas on how to make the best of your time while visiting one of our nations' "Crown Jewels".

35 Years of Yosemite Deaf Services
Celebrate the 35th Anniversary of Yosemite Deaf Services with a weekend full of sign language. Read the feature story and get program details on page 10.

Explore a Sequoia Grove
Visit some of the largest living trees on earth in one of Yosemite's three sequoia groves - The Mariposa Grove, Merced Grove and Tuolumne Grove. (See page 7 for more information.)

Visit the Yosemite Museum
Learn about Yosemite Indians by exploring a museum collection that includes intricately woven baskets and traditional dress. Tour the outdoor Indian Village or talk with an Indian cultural demonstrator. The Yosemite Museum is located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See page 6.)

Stroll with a Ranger
Learn about park wonders on a ranger-guided walk. Programs are offered daily in Yosemite Valley focusing on bears, geology, trees, and other topics. (See page 5 for more information.)

Attend a Naturalist Stroll
On selected early evenings, take a one hour leisurely walk with a naturalist through the meadows and forests surrounding The Ahwahnee Hotel. Enjoy a vivid display of the alpenglow, glimpses of passing wildlife and stories of Yosemite's natural and cultural history during this peaceful, up-close and personal look at Yosemite. (See page 5 for more information)

Take the Bus!
Free shuttles, which are environment-friendly, electric/diesel hybrids, are available in Yosemite Valley year-round. Park your car and let an expert drive you to some of the most scenic and historic points in the park. Not only will you be doing your part to cut down on traffic congestion and vehicle pollutants, you'll also have your hands free and able to capture that perfect photo of Half Dome.



Autumn reflection, Valley View. NPS Photo

Whether you're looking for a cold-weather adventure, a warm fireplace, or a little of both, Yosemite is a magical place in fall and winter!

Tour The Ahwahnee...
Step back to an earlier era of history as you explore this National Historic Landmark that opened in 1927. Notable for its architecture and artful décor, the hotel provides a cozy atmosphere to relax and enjoy a warm drink in.

... or Curl Up in Front of a Fireplace!
The Ahwahnee has three grand fireplaces that have always provided heat to offset the year's most frigid temperatures. Bring a book and a warm drink and find a cozy niche in front of the fire, the perfect place to warm your hands and toes.

Take a Photography Class
Learn how to best capture the landscape of Yosemite by joining a photography expert from The Ansel Adams Gallery. Several classes are offered each week. Some have fees, some are free. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 5 and 6.)

Hike to Mirror Meadow
Situated at the base of Half Dome, Mirror Lake frames reflections of Yosemite's most iconic cliff. (The lake itself is dry until the first significant precipitation of the season.) The quiet trail is gentle and follows Tenaya Creek as it winds its way through the eastern Valley. The trail starts at shuttle stop #17.

Get Outdoors With Yosemite Conservancy
Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing Yosemite's wonders. Spend a weekend observing the lives of birds or summit Half Dome with an expert leading you every step of the way. Looking for a custom Yosemite experience? Contact us to plan a Custom Adventure for your family or group. Visit yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or 209/379-2317 ext. 10 to find your adventure today.

Go to the Theater
After a day filled with exploring, relax and enjoy a show at the Yosemite Theater. Yosemite Theater presents a variety of experiences, including plays based on some of the park's most colorful characters, inspiring films, and celebrations of Yosemite's culture and history. See page 5 for shows and starting times. The last show will be October 25.

Yosemite Art Center Workshops
Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching and fun art workshops. Workshops are held Monday to Saturday in Yosemite Valley. There is a registration fee of \$10 per visitor. The Art Center also offers weekly Beginner Art Workshops and Drop-In Family Crafts Programs. Register in advance by calling 209/372-1442.

Workshops take place at the Yosemite Art Center located next to the Village Store. Art supplies, gifts and original art are available for purchase. Open daily from 9am to 4:30pm (closed at 12pm for lunch). See page 6 for details. The Art Center will close for the season on October 26.

Go Bike Riding or Ice Skating
The Yosemite Lodge Bike Stand is open from 10am to 4pm and closes for the season on November 9, weather and conditions permitting. Call 209/372-8319 for more information on bike rentals. The Curry Village Ice Rink opens for the season on November 21, weather and conditions permitting.

Winter Weather and Driving in Yosemite
The Tioga, Glacier Point, and Mariposa Grove Roads are closed each year from after the first significant snowfall to about late May or early June. Other roads are generally plowed and maintained, but can close or present delays during storm periods. Motorists are advised to always carry chains and check weather and road conditions before travel. Icy and wet roadways can exist throughout the park! To check road conditions, call 209/372-0200 for roads inside the park and 800/427-7623 or visit www.dot.ca.gov for highways connecting to Yosemite, outside the park.

Have You Lost Something In Yosemite?
File a lost report by sending an email to yose_lostandfound@nps.gov. To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite's restaurants, hotels, lounges, shuttle buses or tour services, call 209/372-4357. For items lost or found in other areas of the park, email yose_lostandfound@nps.gov.

What's Inside:

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Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees

Reservations are NOT required to enter Yosemite. The park is open year-round, 24 hours/day.

Vehicle \$20
Valid for 7 days

Individual \$10
In a bus, on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or horse. Valid for 7 days.

Yosemite Pass \$40
Valid for one year in Yosemite.

Interagency Annual Pass \$80
Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.

Interagency Senior Pass \$10 (Lifetime) For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.

Interagency Access Pass (Free) (Lifetime) For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Interagency Military Pass (Free) (Annual) For active duty U.S. military and dependants

Reservations

Campground Reservations
877/444-6777
www.recreation.gov

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

Regional Info

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

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

Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/446-1333
www.tcvb.com

Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
559/683-4636
www.yosemitethisyear.com

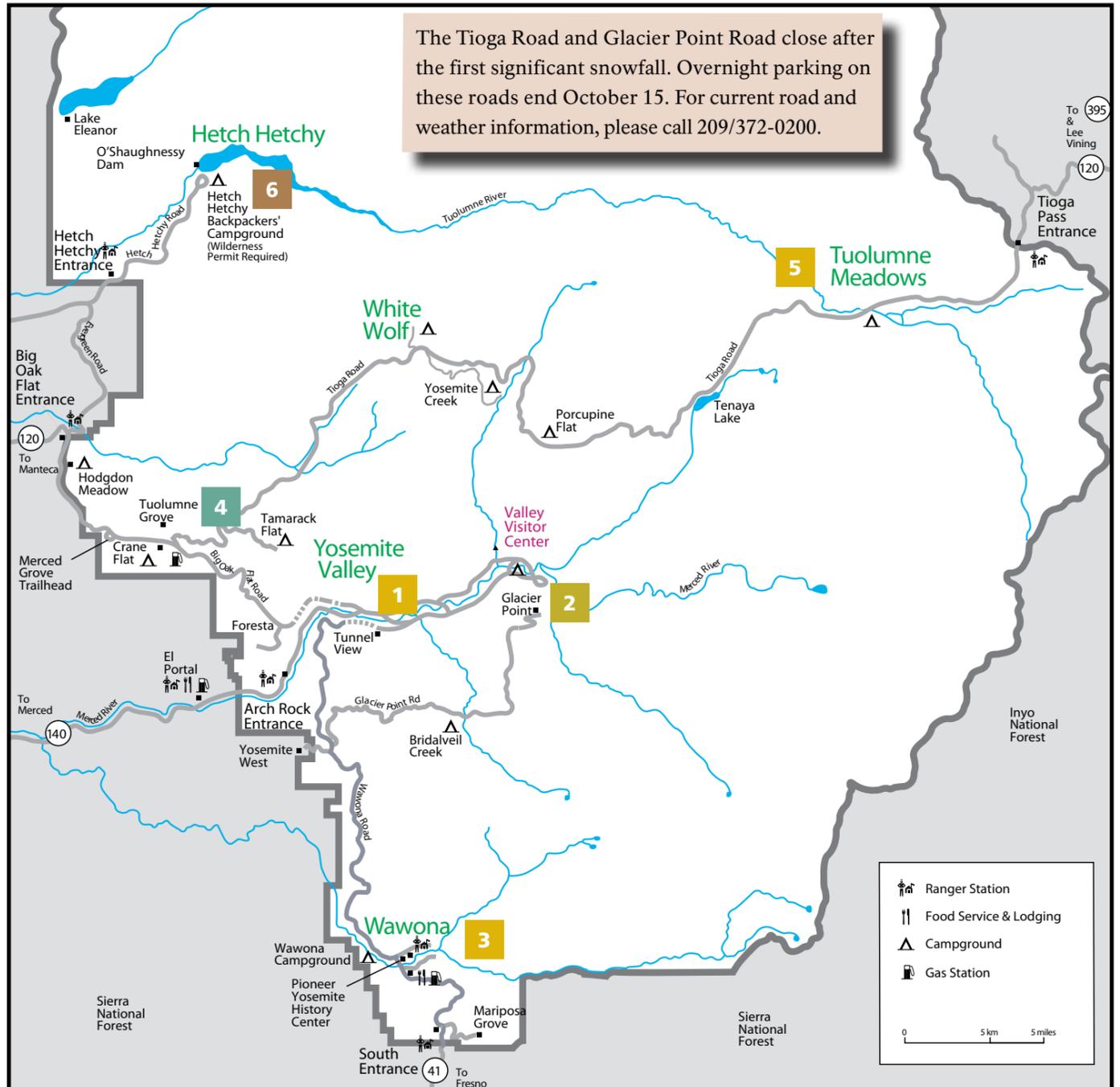
Highway 132/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
209/878-3074

Highway 140/49
Mariposa County Visitor Center
866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081

Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau
209/742-4567
www.homeofyosemite.com

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

Calif. Welcome Center, Merced
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104
www.yosemite-gateway.org



Yosemite Valley

1 Yosemite Valley is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. It is open year round and may be reached via Highway 41 from Fresno, Highway 140 from Merced, Highway 120 West from Manteca, and via the Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) from Lee Vining. The Valley is known for massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, its plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and its attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow recharge it, a moderate hike will take you to Vernal and Nevada Falls. Yosemite's meadows are great places to see wildlife and to photograph fall colors. Admire El Capitan, the massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the Valley by foot, bike, car or with a tour, the scenery will leave you in awe and eager to see what's around the next corner.



Granite, the Merced River, trees, and meadows compose the Valley's unique blend. Photo by Christine White Loberg

Glacier Point Road

2 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. **The road stays open as weather permits, however, overnight parking along it ends October 15.** When the road is snow-covered and conditions permit, a system of cross-country ski tracks are maintained on it. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), then turn left onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating view looking down 3,214 feet into Yosemite Valley.



The view from Glacier Point. Photo by Jessica Cole

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

3 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 station. When weather permits, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is a short drive from Wawona. Parking is also available at the Wawona Store and a free shuttle bus, which runs daily through October 26, from 9am to 6pm, then weekends only until November 16, as weather permits, accesses the grove. The grove road is closed to vehicles after the first big snowstorm, making it a peaceful hike or snowshoe for winter adventurers. See page 7 for Mariposa Grove hiking details. 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.



Snow at Wawona's covered bridge. Photo by Christine White Loberg

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

4 Crane Flat is located 16 miles from Yosemite Valley at the junction of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. A number of hikes through pleasant meadows are available—when snow covers the ground these turn into delightful ski and snowshoe tracks. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking (see page 7 for parking lot closure dates) area located on the Tioga Road, and walk one steep mile down to the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias. Or, park at Merced Grove trailhead and walk two steep miles down to this small grove. These groves north of Yosemite Valley are smaller than the more-famous Mariposa Grove, but are quieter and off-limits to vehicles. Remember that the walk down is easier than the walk back up.



Tuolumne Meadows deep freeze. Photo by Wendy Malone

Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

5 The Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. **The road closes after the first big snowfall, and overnight parking ends on October 15.** The road's elevation ranges from 6,200 to just under 10,000 feet. Tuolumne Meadows embodies the high-country of the Sierra Nevada. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. In winter, Tuolumne Meadows is often reached by skiers via the Snow Creek Trail from the Mirror Lake trailhead, a short distance east of Yosemite Valley.



Cathedral Peak. Photo by Christine White Loberg

Hetch Hetchy

6 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 hour 15 minutes) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from 8am to 7pm through October 31, then 8am to 5pm through March 31. Vehicles and/or trailers over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not permitted on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.



Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. NPS photo by Erik Skindrud

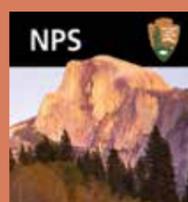
DID YOU KNOW:

- Yosemite Deaf Services was established in 1979.
- Sign language interpreting is available year-round with advance notice.
- In its most popular year, Deaf Services served over 300 requests for interpreting.
- Sacramento, San Francisco, Reno, Las Vegas, and Los Angeles all have vibrant, active Deaf Communities.
- The sign for "Yosemite" moves in the shape of Yosemite Valley.

Want the Guide on your Apple or Android device?

Get the App!

Search **NPS-Yosemite** in app stores or at nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit to download the official park app for up-to-date listings of programs, services, an interactive map, and more!



iPhone/iPad



Android

Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas in the heart of the park



Yosemite Valley in winter. Photo by Sheree Peshlakai

Experience the Incomparable Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley embraces one of the world's most outstanding concentrations of waterfalls, granite walls, meadows, wildflowers, and trees. The Valley also harbors a rich collection of human stories, from American Indian lore to the birth of the National Park movement.

Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery. See pages 5 and 6 for more information on park programs and visitor services available.

Naturalist Programs

Naturalists give walks and talks every day about Yosemite's natural and cultural history. See pages 6 and 7 for scheduled walks, talks, and evening programs.

Walking and Hiking

Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. Stop by a visitor center for a trail map and the most current trail conditions, or see page 9 for a list of popular Valley day hikes.

Sightseeing

Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley include:

- **Bridalveil Fall** is a year-round waterfall that can be visited on your way into or out of the Valley. Winds swirling about the cliff blow the wispy water into a delicate free-fall.
- **El Capitan** is a massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan. *Note: Please stay on foot paths to avoid damaging delicate meadows.*
- **Half Dome**, Yosemite's most distinctive monument dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this iconic feature into what we see today. Cook's Meadow, Sentinel Bridge and Glacier Point all provide stunning views of Half Dome.
- **Happy Isles** is easily reached by the free shuttle bus at stop #16. Cross the footbridges onto the Isles or wander through outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite's geologic story. *Shuttle buses may not go to stop #16 when road is snow-covered or icy.*
- **Tunnel View**, along the Wawona Road (Hwy 41), provides a view that showcases Yosemite Valley. Capture breathtaking views of El Capitan, Bridalveil Fall and Half Dome. It is particularly spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

Tours

Tours listed depart from Yosemite Lodge, weather permitting. Check Tour and Activity Desk for times.

The Valley Floor Tour is a 26-mile, two-hour, guided tour of Yosemite Valley. It departs several times daily.

The Glacier Point Tour is a four-hour, round-trip tour that leaves Yosemite Lodge daily. One-way tickets are available for those who want to hike down from Glacier Point.

The Grand Tour includes the Yosemite Valley, Glacier Point, and the Mariposa Grove. The tour departs Yosemite Lodge at 8:45am daily.

The Glacier Point and The Grand tours end on October 26 or when snow closes the Glacier Point Road.

Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at the Tour and Activity Desk in the Yosemite Lodge, 7:30am to 5pm.

Winter Sports

Badger Pass Ski Area is tentatively scheduled to open on December 12 and the ice rink at Curry Village is scheduled to open on November 21, conditions permitting. Live information on winter sports is available by calling 209/372-8340, or recorded information is available at 209/372-1000.

POST OFFICE

Yosemite Village
Main Office
 Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
 Saturday: 10am to noon
 Yosemite Lodge
Post Office
 Monday - Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm
 El Portal
Post Office
 Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
closed for lunch from 12:30pm to 1:30pm
 Wawona Post Office
 Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm
 Saturday: 9am to noon

BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

Yosemite Village
The Ansel Adams Gallery
 9am to 5pm
Yosemite Bookstore
Inside Yosemite Visitor Center
 9am to 5pm
Yosemite Museum Store
 9am to 5pm, *may close for lunch*
Village Store
 8am to 8pm
Habitat Yosemite
 11am to 4pm Thursday - Sunday only
Closes for the season Nov 30
Sport Shop
 10am to 4pm, *closes for the season Nov 2.*
 The Ahwahnee
The Ahwahnee Gift Shop
 8am to 8pm
The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop
 7am to 10pm
 Yosemite Lodge
Gift/Grocery
 8am to 7pm
Nature Shop
 11am to 6pm
 Curry Village
Mountain Shop
 9am to 5pm
Curry Village Gift/Grocery
 9am to 7pm
 Wawona Area
Wawona Store and Pioneer Gift Shop
 8am to 6pm
Big Trees Gift Shop
 9am to 5pm, *closes for the season Nov 2, weather permitting.*

Events and Programs

Where to go and what to do

| YOSEMITE VALLEY | |
|-----------------|---|
| Sunday | <p>10:00am JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am ASL Nature Walk (October 26 only) 1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn. This program will be presented in American Sign Language only. (DNC)</p> <p>11:00am Ask A Climber (October 12 only) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>1:30pm Beginner Art Workshop (October 12 & 19 only) 1.5 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk - Bears 1.5 hrs. Shuttle stop #6. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm NIGHT PROWL 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p> |
| Monday | <p>9:00am Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>10:00am Art Workshop (October 13 & 20 only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information see page 6. (YC) \$</p> <p>11:00am Ask A Climber (October 13 only) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk - Yosemite's First People 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Ranger Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (NPS/DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE WALK 1 hr. Conditions permitting. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p> |
| Tuesday | <p>9:00am Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>10:00am Art Workshop (October 14 & 21 only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information see page 6. (YC) \$</p> <p>11:00am Ask A Climber (October 14 only) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>1:00pm In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams photography class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk - Geology 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Ranger Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (NPS) ♿</p> |
| Wednesday | <p>10:00am Art Workshop (October 8, 15, 22 only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information see page 6. (YC) \$</p> <p>11:00am Ask A Climber (October 8 & 15 only) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk - Inspiring Generations 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater: Conversation with a Tramp: An Evening with John Muir (October 8 and 15 only) 1.5 hrs. Live performance with stories of wilderness and local characters by Lee Stetson. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm Ranger Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm NIGHT PROWL (Except November 19 & 26) 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p> |
| Thursday | <p>9:00am Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>10:00am Art Workshop (October 9, 16 & 23 only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information see page 6. (YC) \$</p> <p>11:00am Ask A Climber (October 9 only) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>1:00pm Using Your Digital Camera 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk - Trees 1.5 hrs. The Ahwahnee, shuttle stop #3. (NPS)</p> <p>4:00pm Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater: Muir Among the Animals (October 9 & 16 only) 1.5 hrs. Live performance with tales of animals and adventure for the whole family performed by Lee Stetson. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm FIRESIDE STORYTELLING FOR ALL AGES (except November 27) 1 hr. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Program 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm NIGHT PROWL 1.5 hrs. Conditions permitting. Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p> |
| Friday | <p>10:00am Art Workshop (October 10, 17 & 24 only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. For more information see page 6. (YC) \$</p> <p>11:00am Ask A Climber (October 10 only) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>1:00pm FAMILY CRAFTS (October 10, 17 & 24 only) 2 hrs. Drop-in craft program at Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk - Wild About Wildlife 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater: Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey (October 10, 17 & 24 only) 1.5 hrs. Film and presentation by Ron Kauk. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:30pm Film - Ansel Adams 1hr. Check local listing for venue. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm Halloween Cemetery Tour (October 31 only) 1.5 hr. Walking tour of the Yosemite Cemetery. Meet in front of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center with a flashlight (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE WALK 1 hr. Conditions permitting. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p> |
| Saturday | <p>9:00am The Day of the Woodpecker (December 6 only) 7 hrs. Did you know there are 11 species of woodpeckers found in Yosemite — more than in any comparable area in the United States? Camping is included if needed. Lodging reserved for an extra fee if needed. Requires advanced reservation, please call 209/379-2317 ext. 10 (YC) \$</p> <p>9:00am Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>10:00am JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 mins. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am ASL JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM (October 25 only) 1 hr. This program will be presented in American Sign Language only. Curry Village Amphitheater. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am Art Workshop (October 11, 18 & 25 only) 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center For more information see page 6. (YC) \$</p> <p>11:00am Ask A Climber (October 11 only) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitan and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>1:00pm FAMILY CRAFTS (October 11, 18 & 25 only) 2 hrs. Drop-in craft program at Yosemite Art Center. (YC) \$</p> <p>1:00pm In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm Ranger Walk - Ahwahneechee Stories and Games 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stop #5/#9. (NPS) ♿</p> <p>2:30pm WEE WILD ONES (Except November 8) 45 mins. Stories and activities for kids 6 & under. The Ahwahnee Great Lounge. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm Fine Print Viewing (October 11, 18, & 25 only) 1hr. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. limited space. (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm Naturalist Stroll 1 hr. Check local listings for topic. The Ahwahnee back lawn. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Yosemite Theater: Return to Balance: A Climber's Journey (October 11, 18 & 25 only) 1.5 hrs. Film and presentation by Ron Kauk. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) \$</p> <p>7:00pm Evening Program (Except October 25) 1 hr. Check local listings for topic & venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm Deaf Services 35th Anniversary and Reunion (October 25th only) 2 hrs. ASL and English interpretation provided. Check local listings for venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (NPS/DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm Halloween Cemetery Tour (October 25 only) 1.5 hr. Walking tour of the Yosemite Cemetery. Meet in front of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center with a flashlight (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:30pm STARRY SKIES OVER YOSEMITE WALK 1 hr. Conditions permitting. Tickets and information available at any tour & activity desk. (DNC) ♿ \$</p> |

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS AND COLOR** are especially for children and their families.



Access for People with Disabilities

Accessible parking, lodging, tours, and activities are available throughout the park.

For a complete list of accessible services, recreational opportunities, and exhibits, pick up an updated Yosemite Accessibility Guide which is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at www.nps.gov/yose/playourvisit/accessibility.htm, or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 for more information.

Accessible parking spaces are available just west of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. To reach these, enter the Valley on Southside Drive. Turn left on Sentinel Drive. Turn left on Northside Drive, and follow the blue and white signs.



Sign Language interpreting is available upon request. Contact Deaf Services at 209/379-5250 (v/txt). Two weeks advance notice is requested. Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advance request, inquire at a visitor center.



Audio tours are available for the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.

- NPS** National Park Service
- DNC** DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.
- TAAG** The Ansel Adams Gallery
- YC** Yosemite Conservancy
- \$** Programs offered for a fee

Yosemite Valley



Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and bookstore are open from 9am to 5pm. They are located west of the main post office, near shuttle stops #5 and #9. The facility offers information, maps, and books. Explore the exhibits and learn how Yosemite's landscape formed and how people interact with it.

YOSEMITE FILMS

Two films are shown daily, every half hour beginning at 9:30am (except on Sundays, when the first showing is at noon). The last film is at 4:30pm. "Ken Burns' Yosemite - A Gathering of Spirit" plays on the hour and "The Spirit of Yosemite" plays on the half hour, in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

Wilderness Permits

Visit the wilderness center between 8am and 5pm, to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent bear canisters. The Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village, between the post office and the Ansel Adams Gallery. The center will close for the season on October 19. Permits and bear canisters will then be available at the Valley Visitor Center daily from 9am to 5pm.

Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center. The museum is open daily from 9am to 5pm (*may close for lunch*).

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite's Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present. The Indian Cultural Museum is open from 9am to 5pm (*may close for lunch*).

YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

The store offers books and traditional American Indian arts, crafts and jewelry. Open daily from 9am to 5pm (*may close for lunch*).

YOSEMITE MUSEUM GALLERY EXHIBIT Rooms with a View: Three Decades of Yosemite Artists-in-Residence Exhibition

October 31, 2014 - January 19, 2015

This exhibit includes 50 paintings, photographs, sculptures and kinetic art pieces by artists from throughout the country. The works were all produced by artists who were selected for the Yosemite Artists-in-Residence Program (initially sponsored by the National Park Service and later by Yosemite Renaissance) The Program provided up to a month of lodging in or near Yosemite for artists to work. An opening reception for exhibiting artists will be held at the Gallery on Monday, November 3 from 5pm to 6:30pm. The public is cordially invited to attend this reception.

YOSEMITE RENAISSANCE XXX CALL FOR ENTRIES

In its 30th year, Yosemite Renaissance is an all-media, juried, fine art competition and exhibition on the theme of Yosemite and the environment of the Sierra Nevada. It is open to all living artists. \$4,000 in awards. Entry is by digital files, \$15 per entry (maximum of 8 entries per artist). The exhibit begins at the Yosemite Museum Gallery, February 28, 2015. For a prospectus and entry form visit: <http://www.yosemiterenaissance.org>. Deadline for entries: November 15, 2014. Yosemite Renaissance is a non-profit organization which encourages diverse interpretations of Yosemite in the visual arts.

The Ansel Adams Gallery

The gallery is located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center and is open daily from 9am to 5pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other artists. See page 7 for photo walk and other event times. For gallery hours from October 27-31 and for more information, call 209/372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com.

EXHIBIT

The Vertical Generation - Views from Yosemite's Edge

September 14, 2014 - October 22, 2014

Photography first arrived in Yosemite during the middle part of the 19th century as a tool for documenting the unknown. It was capable of recording that which others had no ability to visit and see. It evolved into a vehicle for politics, then novelty and spectacle and eventually fine art. By the 1930's, much of the domestic, negotiable park terrain had seen a camera, but stagnation was nowhere on the proverbial horizon. Concurrently, photography's place within the Yosemite story forever changed in 1934, when Jules Eichorn, Bestor Robinson and Richard Leonard made the first major technical ascent of a Yosemite rock feature, bringing along a camera to document a new frontier. Their images once again showed a landscape that was unimaginable to most, but inspired many. As part of The Ansel Adams Gallery's continuing celebration of the 150th anniversary of The Yosemite Grant, we are thrilled to present "The Vertical Generation," a collection of photographs and other works on paper which showcase a wholly unique perspective on an icon.

Gateway Expressions

October 23 - 25, 2014

Gateway Expressions Student Art and Poetry Contest is open to all students, grades K-12, attending a school or youth program associated with the gateway community school districts of Yosemite National Park. Selected artwork and poetry will be featured in an exhibit at The Ansel Adams Gallery, and students will be acknowledged at an awards ceremony on Saturday, October 25, 2014.

Yosemite Theater (YC)

Yosemite Theater offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances. Revel as performers bring the park's adventures to life! Tickets: \$8 adults, \$4 children.

Conversation with a Tramp: An Evening with John Muir

Wednesdays (July 2 - October 15)

Lee Stetson is John Muir as he recounts the compelling battle to save the Hetch Hetchy Valley.

Muir Among the Animals

Thursdays (July 3 - October 16)

Lee Stetson is funny and warmhearted as Yosemite defender John Muir.

Return to Balance: A Climbers Journey

Fridays & Saturdays (July 4 - October 25)

Film and discussion with renowned climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. See Yosemite in all 4 seasons, plus rock climbing.

Yosemite Art Center (YC)

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to enjoy a hands-on art experience in Yosemite Valley. Celebrated artists lead workshops from 10am to 2pm, Monday through Saturday. The Art Center closes for the season on October 26.

- Oct 6 - Oct 11 Autumn Inspirations
Watercolor, Janice Shedd
- Oct 13 - Oct 18 Watercolor Simple and
Easy, Karen Bieber
- Oct 20 - Oct 25 Plein Air Color and Light:
Watercolor, John Hewitt

There is a registration fee of \$10 per visitor, supplies are available for purchase.

Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures(YC)

Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing the wonders of Yosemite through our Outdoor Adventure programs. Join one of the many year-round programs available and explore everything Yosemite has to offer.

- Oct 16 - Oct 19 Yosemite Photography:
Autumn Light
- Oct 30 - Nov 2 Yosemite Photography:
Focusing on Nature
- Dec 6 The Day of the Woodpecker

Find more information about these programs at www.yosemiteconservancy.org/outdoor-adventures or call 209/379-2317, ext.

10. Camping (if needed) and park entry are included, additional lodging options available. Custom adventures can also be arranged for individuals, families and groups. Proceeds support Yosemite Conservancy's work in the park; preserving and protecting Yosemite for generations to come.



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

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Yosemite Village

Degnan's Delicatessen 7am to 5pm

The Ahwahnee

Dining Room

Breakfast: 7am to 10am

Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm

Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Sunday Brunch: 7am to 2pm

Appropriate attire required for dinner.

Reservations recommended for dinner and Sunday Brunch. 209/372-1489.

The Coffee Bar 7am to 10:30am

The Ahwahnee Bar 2pm to 11pm

(holiday weekends - 11:30am to 11pm)

Yosemite Lodge

Food Court

Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am

Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm

Dinner: 5pm to 8pm (Grab and Go only, last 30-minutes)

Mountain Room Lounge

Monday - Friday, 4:30pm to 11pm

Saturday - Sunday, Noon to 11pm

Mountain Room Restaurant

5pm to 8pm

Reservations taken for 8 or more.

209/372-1281

Curry Village

Pizza Deck

5pm to 9pm

After Oct 26, weekends and holidays only. Closes for the season Nov 30.

Curry Village Bar

5pm to 10pm

closes for the season Oct 25

Pavilion Buffet

Breakfast: 7am to 10am

closes for the season Oct 26

Dinner: 5:30pm to 8pm

closes for the season Oct 25

Coffee Corner

7am to 11am

After Oct 26, weekends only through Nov 30. Closes for the season Nov 30.

Wawona

The Wawona Hotel and Dining Room are closed from December 1 -19.

Wawona Hotel Dining Room

Breakfast: 7:30am to 10am

Lunch: 11:30am to 1:30pm

Dinner:

Sunday-Thursday, 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Friday-Saturday, 5:30pm to 9pm

Reservations taken for 6 or more,

209/375-1425

Lounge Service: 5pm to 9:30pm

Golf Course/Golf Shop & Snack Stand

9am to 5pm *weather and conditions*

permitting (closes for the season Oct 26)

GROCERIES

Yosemite Lodge

Gift/Grocery

8am to 7pm

Yosemite Village

Village Store

8am to 8pm

Curry Village

Gift/Grocery

9am to 7pm

Wawona

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop

8am to 6pm

Crane Flat

Crane Flat Store

10am to 4pm *weather permitting*

(Closes for the season Nov 30)

GAS STATIONS

Gas outside Yosemite Valley

El Portal

Diesel available

Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

Wawona

8am to 6pm. Diesel & propane.

Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.

Crane Flat

Diesel available. Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY

Curry Village Showers

Open 24 hours

Housekeeping Camp Laundromat

8am to 10pm

Visitor Services

Beyond Yosemite Valley

Wawona & Mariposa Grove

WAWONA VISITOR CENTER AT HILL'S STUDIO / WILDERNESS PERMITS

The visitor center is open daily from 8:30am to 5pm and offers information

about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. Located on the grounds of the Wawona Hotel, Hill's Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park at the Wawona store parking area and follow the path up the hill. From October 14 through October 31, the bookstore only will be open daily from 8:30am to 5pm. Wilderness permits will be available by self-registration on the porch and bear canisters will be available for rent at the Wawona Store. After October 31, the bookstore only will be open Friday-Sunday from 9 am to 4pm *(may close for lunch)*.

EVENING PROGRAMS

Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Wawona Hotel lobby from 5:30pm to 9:30pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and tells stories from Yosemite's past. Historical programs are available by request and are usually given at 8:30pm. For more details, drop by the piano early in the evening to ask Tom or stop by the front desk.

Pioneer Yosemite History Center

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

EXPERIENCE HORSE-DRAWN TRAVEL

From Friday, October 10 through Sunday, October 12, between 10am and 2pm, Travel into history by taking a 10-minute horse-drawn stage ride. Tickets may be purchased at the Grey Barn in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. Costs \$5/adults and \$4/child (ages 3-12).

Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park's largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees. A

few of these giants are visible in the parking area. Information about access for disabled people is available at the tram boarding area. The road to the Grove typically closes in November or December. Visitors can walk, ski, or snowshoe when the road is closed to vehicles.

GETTING TO MARIPOSA GROVE

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

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

MARIPOSA GROVE & WAWONA SHUTTLE

Stops for the free shuttle bus are at the Wawona Store, South Entrance, and Mariposa Grove. Visitors may park at the Wawona Store to board the bus. Shuttles operate daily from 9am to 6pm through October 26, then weekends only until November 16, weather permitting.

BIG TREES TRAM TOUR

A 1¼ hours tour of the grove is available if weather permits through October 26. The audio tour is available in five languages and for the visually impaired. Please visit the Big Trees Ticket Kiosk at the Big Trees Gift Shop, in the Mariposa Grove, for departure times. The gift shop is open from 9am to 5pm, weather and conditions permitting, and closes for the season on November 2.

WALKING THROUGH THE GROVE

Trails into the grove extend uphill from the trailhead at the far end of the parking area. Interpretive signs between the trailhead and the California Tree provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead in Spanish, German, French, and Japanese. When the ground is snow-covered, access is limited to foot, snowshoe, or ski.

Dogs and bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Mariposa Grove.

Big Oak Flat

BIG OAK FLAT INFORMATION STATION

The visitor center is open from 8am to 5pm and offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals and maps. The center is located just inside the park entrance on

Highway 120W. From October 16 through October 31, the bookstore only will be open daily from 9am to 5pm *(may close for lunch)*. It will close for the season on November 1. Wilderness permits will be available by self-registration on the porch and bear canisters will be available for rent inside the bookstore.

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, ski, or snowshoe 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 in the area so 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.

Tuolumne Grove

The trailhead for this grove of approximately 25 sequoias is near the intersection of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga roads at Crane Flat. The moderately strenuous trail leads downhill from the *parking area into the grove and drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. There is no potable water in the area so be sure to bring drinking water with you.

**Through December 31, 2014, the parking lot will be closed while improvements are made to the trailhead and parking area. The Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias will remain open, with limited parking available just east of the Tuolumne Grove parking lot.*

Tuolumne Meadows

Visit the wilderness center between 8am and 5pm to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent bear canisters. The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center is located just south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, across from shuttle stop #3. The center will close for the season on October 15 and wilderness permits will be available by self-registration at the Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station. Please come prepared with bear canisters.

GENERAL SERVICES

VILLAGE GARAGE

8am to 5pm Towing 24 hours. Propane available until 4:30pm. 209/372-1160

YOSEMITE MEDICAL CLINIC

The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm and is closed on Saturday and Sunday. 24-hour emergency ambulance service continues to be available. For emergency care after 5pm, call 9-1-1. For more information call 209/372-4637.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH

(Yosemite Chapel) 209/372-4831
Pastor Brent Moore - Resident Minister
YosemiteValleyChapel.org

SUNDAY SERVICES:

9:15am (Sunday School Available)
11am (Memorial Day through Labor Day ONLY)
6:30pm Evening chapel service

THANKSGIVING SERVICE:

10am Thanksgiving Day (no evening service)

7pm TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY (call for location)

THURSDAY MID-WEEK SERVICE

7pm in the chapel

ROMAN CATHOLIC

SUNDAY MASS CELEBRATIONS:
Sunday, 10am, Theater behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, 209/372-4729

CHURCH OF CHRIST (NONDENOMINATIONAL)

El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am
Info: 209/379-2100

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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

LIONS CLUB

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

Protecting yourself...



Autumn leaves, NPS Photo

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.

Around Ice and Water

- Stay off of frozen lakes, rivers and streams and away from swift waters. Keep children from wandering near these natural hazards.
- Never swim or wade upstream from a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Each year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.
- Mountain water is very cold, no matter what time of year it is. Yosemite's rivers are fed by melted snow, and even expert swimmers can quickly lose their strength in the icy water.
- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

Avoid Hypothermia

Sierra winters are comparatively mild, but temperatures can drop into dangerous territory with little warning. Winter sports require a high degree of preparation and training.

- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.
- Avoid the combination of wetness, wind, and cold.
- Know symptoms of hypothermia.
- Carry emergency fire-starting materials
- Avoid dehydration; carry and drink plenty of water at least three liters of water per person, and bring high-energy food.

Water Quality

To protect yourself from disease, treat any surface water before drinking. Treatment methods include boiling for five minutes, use of a Giardia-rated water filter, or iodine-based purifier. To prevent the spread of Giardia and other water-borne disease organisms, use restroom facilities where available, and always wash hands afterwards with soap and water. In natural areas where facilities are not available, wash, camp, and bury human waste at least 100 feet away from any water source or trail, burying human waste six inches deep and pack out any toilet paper.

Traffic Safety

Roads leading to the park are two-lane, arrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by obeying posted speed limits. Yosemite's roads are used by both visitors and park wildlife. Use turnouts to pull completely out of the road, to take photos, consult the park map, or simply enjoy the park's scenery and wildlife.

Hiking, Backpacking, Backcountry Snow Travel, and Rock Climbing

It is starting to get dark early, which means temperatures will drop fast. Prepare yourself with a headlamp and extra layers, even on day hikes. Also, trails may be closed after the first winter storm, due to either ice or rockfall hazards. For your safety, please respect these closures and do not bypass them. Here are a few more reminders before you hit the trails.

- Tell someone your plan and when you hope to return.
- Be prepared for icy travel before conditions arise. Bring crampons, ice axe, climbing skins, and other traction devices.
- Carry a map and compass and know where you are at all times, with a planned route.
- Altitude sickness can develop at altitudes as low as 8,000 feet. Descend to a lower elevation should it develop.
- Know the weather and prepare for changes. Snow can occur with little warning, and can make route finding very difficult.
- Avoid dehydration; carry and drink plenty of water and bring high-energy food.
- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Bring a flashlight in case you need to stay on the trail longer than expected.
- Admire wildlife from a distance to prevent injury to you or animals.

Stay on Trail

- Many accidents occur because visitors leave a trail or pathway. Off trail travel can be extremely dangerous, especially next to waterways where rocks have been polished.

- Scrambling on boulders, wading across streams or rivers, and traveling beyond railings or other barriers may put you one slip away from a fatal accident.

- Avoid shortcuts. Visitors commonly get "ledged out" after cutting across trails.

Wilderness Permit Details

Wilderness permits are free and are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Permits are issued and bear canisters are available for rent at the Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center, the Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center, the Big Oak Flat Information Center, Hill's Studio in Wawona, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station during their hours of operation. Please see wilderness permit information on pages 6 and 7 for more details.

For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Sixty percent of the trailhead quota is available in advance. Forty percent of the trailhead quota is available on a first come, first served basis and are available, same-day, at opening and the day before starting at 11am. Check the park's website at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm or call 209/372-0740, for additional information.

Half Dome Permit Information

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up, from May 23 through October 14, 2014, conditions permitting. To apply for permits, visit Recreation.gov or call 877/444-6777. More information about the Half Dome Permit Process is available at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm>.

Hantavirus Information

Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases that are harmful to humans. Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is a rare but serious disease spread to humans via the droppings, urine, or saliva of infected rodents. Not all rodents are infected

with hantavirus, but infected rodents have been found throughout the US. In California, deer mice are the primary carrier of the virus that causes HPS. You may come into close proximity to rodents during your visit, so it is important you take steps to protect yourself from HPS. HPS risk is greater inside of buildings or other enclosures where deer mice are present.

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

HPS often begins with flu-like symptoms such as aches, fever, and chills one to seven weeks after exposure, progressing to cough and difficulty in breathing. Seek medical attention immediately if you experience these symptoms, and mention any potential rodent exposures to your physician.

For more information on hantavirus and other environmental safety hazards visit: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm>

Avoid contact with wildlife and keep food and trash stored properly.

Wild animals in Yosemite can transmit numerous diseases, including plague, rabies, and hantavirus. Keeping your distance and your food from wildlife not only protects them, it also protects you from injury and exposure to diseases.

If you encounter a mammal, particularly a raccoon, skunk, fox, coyote, or bat, that is behaving erratically, don't touch the animal. Instead, report the sick animal to a park employee.

In addition to keeping bears away, storing your food properly also reduces your exposure to rodents and their fleas, which may carry plague.

...and Yosemite



Photo by Karen Amstutz

Keeping Bears Wild

Keep Yosemite's Black Bears Wild and Alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

Store Your Food Properly.

4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, berries, acorns, and grubs—that's the typical daily diet of most bears. It's a lot easier for a bear to eat the thousands of calories of food in an ice chest than it is to spend all day nibbling at grasses. Their incredible sense of smell allows them to detect things we can't, which helps them find food—a black bear can smell a dead deer three miles away. To top it off, bears have excellent vision and can see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

If you see a bear, scare it away or keep your distance.

You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away: Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there is more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear. If you see a bear anywhere else, consider yourself lucky—but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will

be helping the bear become used to being around people. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed.

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.

Yosemite Guardians

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park's most important guardians. With nearly 4 million people watching over its special plants, animals, historic, and archeological sites, imagine how well-protected these park resources could be!

During your visit to Yosemite be aware that there are people who either unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

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

If you see activities that could harm people or park resources, jot down any descriptions or a vehicle license plate number and call the park dispatch office at 209/379-1992.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm and find a copy of the Superintendent's Compendium. This document is a compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions made by the superintendent, in addition to what is contained in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7 and 34), and other applicable federal statutes and regulations.

How to Store Food

"Food" includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This may include items that you do not consider food, such as canned goods, bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unwashed items used for preparing or eating meals.

| LOCATION | FOOD STORAGE | WHY? |
|---|--|--|
| Your Vehicle | You may store food in your car (with windows closed) only during daylight hours. Do not store food in your car after dark: use a food locker. Remember to clear your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats. | Bears can smell food, even if it's sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles! |
| Your Campsite or Tent Cabin | You must store all your food in food lockers—not in your tent or tent cabin. A food locker is available at each campsite and tent cabin. Food may be stored out of sight in hard-sided RVs with windows closed. | Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even check food lockers to see if they're secured. Keep food lockers closed and latched at all times, even when you are in your campsite or tent cabin. |
| Picnic Areas & on the Trails | Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm's reach. Don't turn your back to your food. | Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert. |
| Backpacking in the Wilderness | Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite. | In Yosemite and the southern Sierra, bear canisters are the only effective and proven method of preventing bears from getting human food. |

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

| TRAIL / DESTINATION | STARTING POINT | DISTANCE / TIME | DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Bridalveil Fall | Bridalveil Fall Parking Area | 0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes | Easy |
| Lower Yosemite Fall | Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6 | 1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes | Easy |
| Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock | Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7 | 2 miles round-trip, 2-3 hours | Strenuous 1,000-foot gain |
| Top of Upper Yosemite Fall | Same as above | 7.2 miles round-trip, 6-8 hours | Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain |
| Mirror Lake (A seasonal lake) | Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17 | 2 miles round-trip, 1 hour | Easy |
| Vernal Fall Footbridge | Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16 | 1.4 miles round-trip, 1-2 hours | Moderate, 400-foot gain |
| Top of Vernal Fall | Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16 | 3 miles round-trip, 2-4 hours | Strenuous 1,000-foot gain |
| Top of Nevada Fall | same as above | 5 miles round-trip, 5-6 hours | Strenuous 1,900-foot gain |
| Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Closed in winter) | Southside Drive | 4.8 miles one-way, 3-4 hours one-way | Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain |
| Valley Floor Loop | Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6 | 13 miles full loop, 5-7 hours full loop | Moderate |

35 Years of Yosemite Deaf Services

By Jessica Cole



The Ikeda, Dingel, Brooke, Gonzales, and Kovacs families work together to spell Y-O-S-E-M-I-T-E in American Sign Language. Photo by Jessica Cole

Make two fists. Stick out both thumbs, then both pinkies. You've just made the shape of the letter "Y" in American Sign Language. Use your two "Y" hands to draw the shape of Yosemite Valley, from above your head where the towering cliffs begin, down their majestic walls in a sweeping arc, to the flat valley floor in front of you. You just signed "Yosemite."

This year Yosemite Deaf Services celebrates its 35th Anniversary with a weekend full of sign language. Deaf and hearing visitors alike are invited to join us at Yosemite Lodge's amphitheater at 7pm on October 25 to honor the people who began the program and those who have kept it going for 35 years. We will share stories and memories of Yosemite, all presented in American Sign Language (ASL) with voice interpreting in English.

DID YOU KNOW:

- The National Park Service is committed to accessibility for all visitors. Services available for Deaf visitors include sign language interpreting, assisted listening devices, a public videophone at Yosemite Lodge, and free Access Passes to National Parks.
- Sign language interpreting is available for activities listed in the Yosemite Guide with advance notice.
- You may request use of assisted listening devices at the Visitor Centers in Yosemite Valley, Wawona, and Tuolumne Meadows.

The weekend will also include an ASL Junior Ranger Program Saturday morning, and an ASL Nature Walk on Sunday morning. Both programs will be presented in American Sign Language only. Check the schedule of events for details and locations. Volunteer interpreters will also be on hand to interpret other programming; stop by the Valley Visitor Center to make a request.

A long list of employees, visitors, and volunteers have contributed to Deaf Services over the years and ensured a legacy of improved access for the hundreds of Deaf visitors who come to Yosemite every year. Five individuals in particular deserve credit for the inception of Yosemite Deaf Services.

Maureen Fitzgerald, a sign language interpreter, and Dale Dahl, a Deaf man and wheelchair-user, visited Yosemite one summer in the 1970s. They met Len McKenzie, a Ranger Naturalist whose grandmother was deaf, and Donna Pritchett, a wheelchair-user with a visual impairment who was serving as Yosemite's Disabled Access Coordinator. They made quite an impression on each other, and Dahl later collaborated on disability awareness training for park staff with Fitzgerald serving as his interpreter.

In the summer of 1979, when Fitzgerald and Dahl offered their services to

improve accessibility in the park, McKenzie and Pritchett with the help of funding from the Yosemite Association, made it happen. Fitzgerald was offered a staff position for part of the summer, and Dahl served as a volunteer consultant. He routinely visited the park and offered his unique perspective on services, and once also facilitated the visit of a group of Deaf visitors, including Mary Ellen Lentz who helped develop the program. Lentz first introduced some of the signs for formations and locations in Yosemite that are still in use today.

"A long list of employees, visitors, and volunteers have contributed to Deaf Services over the years and ensured a legacy of improved access for the hundreds of Deaf visitors who come to Yosemite every year."

Since then, Yosemite has hired a sign language interpreter to work in Yosemite Valley every summer. Interpreting is available during the off-season too, but requires advance notice. The program serves over a hundred visitors each year. A public videophone has been installed at Yosemite Lodge, and a videophone number for general info has been established. Visitor Centers have UbiDuos or Interpretypes for face-to-face, real-time, typed conversations

when an interpreter is not available, and a slow but steady culture of sign language is spreading throughout the park. The Yosemite website even has a growing library of videos in ASL.

You can learn more about Yosemite Deaf Services by attending the 35th Anniversary Ceremony on Saturday, October 25, or by emailing the current Deaf Services Coordinator at yose_deaf_services@nps.gov.

Yosemite Deaf Services 35th Anniversary Celebration Schedule of Events

Saturday, October 25, 2014

10:00am **ASL JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM**
1 hr. This program will be presented in American Sign Language only. Curry Village Amphitheater. (NPS) ♿

7:00pm **Deaf Services 35th Anniversary and Reunion**

2 hrs. Honor the founders of Yosemite Deaf Services and celebrate the program's 35 years with an evening of storytelling. ASL and English interpretation provided. Check local listings for venue. Yosemite Lodge at the Falls. (NPS/DNC) ♿

Sunday, October 26, 2014

10:00am **ASL Nature Walk**
1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn. This program will be presented in American Sign Language only. (DNC)

**Volunteer interpreters will be on hand to interpret other park programs. Stop by the Valley Visitor Center to make a request.*

Supporting Your Park

Providing for Yosemite's Future

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.



DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite

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

For more information and employment opportunities with DNC at Yosemite, visit online at www.YosemitePark.com



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 life-long 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

Through the support of donors, Yosemite Conservancy provides grants and support to Yosemite National Park to help preserve and protect Yosemite today and for future generations. The work funded by Yosemite Conservancy is visible throughout the park, from trail rehabilitation to wildlife protection and habitat restoration. The Conservancy is dedicated to enhancing the visitor experience and providing a deeper connection to the park through outdoor programs, volunteering and wilderness services. Thanks to dedicated supporters, the Conservancy has provided more than \$81 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Donate now or learn more at www.yosemiteconservancy.org or call 800/469-7275.



Providing For Yosemite's Future

Contact Us

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209/379-9510 fax
www.yni.org

Volunteer For Your Park!

Over 10,100 volunteers donated more than 170,000 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/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm or call the volunteer office at 209/379-1850.



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Lower right: Raven, Karen Kroner Amstutz; Top right: Half Dome, Christine White Loberg