NOTICE: Shuttle service and traffic circulation subject to change with parking and road construction. Expect temporary re-routes and delays.
**Seasonal Highlights**

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

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**EVERY KID IN A PARK**

Fourth graders, grab your family and go enjoy your national parks for FREE! The Every Kid In A Park initiative was launched to help the next generation of park visitors and supporters create positive attitudes towards public lands and to give every child the chance to explore America’s great outdoors and unique history. Visit www.everykidinapark.gov for more information.

**FREE INTERAGENCY 4TH GRADE PASS**

A free annual pass for 4th grade students and their families, to have access to any federal land or water during the school year from September 1 to August 30. Print and present a paper voucher at any park entrance to obtain the pass. Visit www.everykidinapark.gov for details.

**VISIT THE YOSEMITE MUSEUM**

Visit the Yosemite Museum and explore exhibits of California Indian culture, and talk with the Indian cultural demonstrator. Tour the outdoor Indian Village. You can also view changing exhibits in the gallery. The Museum is located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. See page 5 for details.

**STROLL WITH A RANGER**

Learn about the wonders of the park on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily in Yosemite Valley on a variety of topics including geology, trees, bears, geology and more. See pages 5 for details.

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**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/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm), or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 for more information.

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**ZERO LANDFILL INITIATIVE**

Be a steward of Yosemite by helping make Yosemite the first Zero Landfill park in the country. Through the Zero Landfill Initiative, we are reducing the amount of trash that goes to the landfill every year. In partnership with Yosemite Hospitality, we are making it easier for visitors and staff to participate by adding more recycling containers with better labels. We are also working to reduce the amount of waste we generate in park management operations.

Here are 3 things you can do to help:

1. Get rid of excess packaging by repacking food in reusable containers before you leave home.
3. Put trash and recycling in the right containers.

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**GET OUTDOORS WITH YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY**

Are you looking for a memorable way to explore Yosemite, tailored to your interests and abilities? Our expert naturalist guides will enhance your understanding of the park as you walk among world-famous cliffs, trees, and waterfalls. Whether you want to explore flora and fauna while taking a gentle saunter along the river or learn about natural history during an exhilarating hike, we’ll help you create the perfect outdoor experience. Contact us to plan a Custom Adventure for your family or group. Visit yosemiteconservancy.org/ adventures or call 209/379-2317 x10 to find your adventure today.

**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 require fees. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village, shuttle stops #5 and #9. See pages 4 and 5 for details.

**LOSE SOMETHING IN YOSEMITE?**

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, call 209/379-1001 or email yose_lostandfound@nps.gov

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**VISIT THE ICE RINK AT HALF DOME VILLAGE**

Visit Half Dome Village for a one-of-a-kind ice skating experience with a spectacular view of Half Dome. See page 6 for details.

**ENJOY WINTER FUN AT YOSEMITE SKI AND SNOWBOARD AREA (YSSA)**

Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area (YSSA) is a great place for visitors to play in the snow, take a guided snowshoe hike or embark on a cross-country skiing adventure. The YSSA is open daily, weather and conditions permitting. See page 6 for service hours and free shuttle schedule.

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**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 pollution, you’ll also have your hands free and able to capture that perfect photo of Half Dome.

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**Experience Your America Yosemite National Park**

Yosemite Guide December 7, 2016 - February 7, 2017

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

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**Yosemite National Park Zero Landfill Initiative**

Yosemite Zero Landfill Initiative

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**Access to Yosemite National Park**

Access to Yosemite National Park is available year-round. Park entrance fees are required for vehicles, motorcycles, and pets. A single-use vehicle pass is good for 7 consecutive days. Bicycles, pedestrians, and horses are free. If you want to visit the backcountry, or go beyond the park boundary, you’ll need a backcountry permit. 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/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm), or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 for more information.

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**Special Events and Programs**

For a complete list of special events and programs, visit [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/specialevents.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/specialevents.htm), or call 209/379-1010 for more information.

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**Yosemite National Park**

Yosemite National Park is located in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California, USA. It was established in 1890 and is known for its giant sequoia trees, waterfalls, and granite cliffs. The park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a National Park.

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**Yosemite Valley**

Yosemite Valley is the heart of Yosemite National Park. It is a stunning area with waterfalls, temples, and giant sequoia trees. The valley is accessible by car, bus, or footpath. There are several visitor centers and lodges in Yosemite Valley.

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**Yosemite Conservancy**

The Yosemite Conservancy is a non-profit organization that supports the National Park Service in its efforts to preserve Yosemite National Park.

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**Yosemite National Park Visitors Association (YSSA)**

The Yosemite National Park Visitors Association (YSSA) is a non-profit organization that supports the National Park Service in its efforts to preserve Yosemite National Park.

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**Yosemite National Park Visitor Center**

The Yosemite National Park Visitor Center is located in Yosemite Valley. It is a great place to get information about the park, plan your visit, and purchase souvenirs.

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**Yosemite National Park Lodging**

Yosemite National Park offers a variety of lodging options, from budget-friendly options to luxury lodges.

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**Yosemite National Park Activities**

Yosemite National Park offers a variety of activities, including hiking, wildlife watching, and photography.

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**Yosemite National Park Recreation**

Yosemite National Park offers a variety of recreational activities, including kayaking, mountain biking, and rock climbing.

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**Yosemite National Park History**

Yosemite National Park was established in 1890 and is known for its giant sequoia trees, waterfalls, and granite cliffs. The park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a National Park.

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**Yosemite National Park Wildlife**

Yosemite National Park is home to a variety of wildlife, including bears, wolves, and mountain lions.

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**Yosemite National Park Geology**

Yosemite National Park is known for its beautiful granite cliffs and waterfalls. The park is characterized by the presence of granite, which is a type of igneous rock.

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**Yosemite National Park Rangers**

Yosemite National Park has a number of rangers who are there to help visitors plan their visit and answer any questions they may have.

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**Yosemite National Park Photography**

Yosemite National Park is known for its stunning landscape, and visitors often come to the park to take pictures of the area.

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**Yosemite National Park Access for People with Disabilities**

Yosemite National Park is accessible to people with disabilities. The park has accessible parking, lodging, tours, and activities throughout the park.

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**Yosemite National Park Landfill Initiative**

The Yosemite National Park Landfill Initiative is a program that is working to reduce the amount of trash that goes to the landfill every year. In partnership with Yosemite Hospitality, we are making it easier for visitors and staff to participate by adding more recycling containers with better labels. We are also working to reduce the amount of waste we generate in park management operations.

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**Yosemite National Park Visitor Information**

For more information about Yosemite National Park, visit [www.nps.gov/yose](http://www.nps.gov/yose), or call 209/379-1010.
Experience Your America    Yosemite National Park

Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees

Non-commercial car, pickup truck, RV, or van with 15 or fewer passenger seats:
Valid for 7 days

- No person fee
- Vehicle: $30/vehicle
- Motorcycle: $20/motorcycle

Individual:
Valid for 7 days
- $15, (in a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse)
- $20/motorcycle

Yosemite Park Pass: $60
Valid for one year in Yosemite.

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

Interagency Senior Pass: $10
Valid for 1 year for all federal recreation sites.

Interagency Access Pass (Free):
For U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Interagency Military Pass (Free):
For active duty U.S. military and dependents.

Interagency 4th Grade Pass (Free):
For fourth graders and their families. 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

Calaveras County Visitors Bureau:
888/339-3481

Highway 140
California Welcome Center, Merced:
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104
www.yosemitegateway.org

Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center:
866/247-3366 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

Yosemite Valley
Yosemite Valley is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. It is open year round and can 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 in summer. 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 and winter scenery. Admire El Capitan, the massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the Valley by foot, car or with a tour, the scenery will leave you in awe 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 (1 hour) from Yosemite Valley. The road stays open as weather permits, however, overnight parking along it ends October 15. Glacier Point Road closes beyond the Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area after the first significant snowfall. 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, when the road is open, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating view looking down 3,214 feet into Yosemite Valley.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1.5 hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park’s south entrance station. As of July 6, 2015, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is closed for restoration, see page 7 for details. The nearby Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona entrance station.

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

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 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 and Tioga Road

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 feet 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.

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 (1¼ 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 through March 31. Wilderness permits and bear canisters are available while the road is open. 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.

DID YOU KNOW:

- Yosemite signed its first sister park agreements in 2006 with Huangshan and Juzhaigou National Parks in China.
- Yosemite National Park has signed 15 sister park agreements with parks in 9 different countries.
- Yosemite and its sister parks share similar global challenges like air and water pollution, climate change, and impacts due to high popularity.
- Yosemite’s International Affairs Program also manages short-term technical exchanges and hosts as many as 50 international delegations a year.

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 late May or early June. Other roads are generally plowed and maintained, but can close or present delays during storms. 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.

Chain Control Information:

For vehicles weighing less than 6,000 pounds AND your auto or pickup has mud/snow tires installed. (look for “M+S” on the wall of the tire)

R1 - Chains Required, unless you are driving a car, pickup truck, or SUV weighing less than 6,000 pounds AND your auto or pickup has mud/snow tires installed. (look for “M+S” on the wall of the tire)

R2 - Chains Required, unless you are driving a car, pickup truck, or SUV weighing less than 6,000 pounds AND your auto or pickup has mud/snow tires installed. (look for “M+S” on the wall of the tire)

R3 - Chains Required, on ALL vehicles (chains on 2 wheels of a 4-wheel drive).
**Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore**
The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Yosemite Conservancy 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 Theater behind the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

**WILDERNESS PERMITS**
Wilderness permits are required year-round. Permits for Yosemite Valley trailheads are available at the Visitor Center daily from 9am to 5pm. Bear canisters are also available for rent. For more information on wilderness travel and safety please see page 8.

**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.

**MUSEUM EXHIBIT**

**LANDMARK: Yosemite Through the Lens of Contemporary Landscape Photography**
November 18, 2016 - January 22, 2017
The Yosemite Museum is hosting this special display of contemporary landscape photography in celebration of the National Park Service centennial. This traveling exhibition, curated and organized by Cara Goger of the Mariposa County Arts Council, features the work of Birn Dahn, Mark Klett, Byron Wolfe, Ted Orland, Millie Tibbs and Jerry Uelsmann. These contemporary artists bring new representation and varied voices to the genre of landscape photography, which has been such an integral part of the park’s history. The Yosemite venue for this traveling exhibit will also feature historic photographs and ephemera from the Yosemite Museum collection to help place these contemporary works in their historic context. This exhibit was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Yosemite Museum Gallery, open daily from 10am to noon, and 1pm to 4pm, except for holiday closures November 23 to 25, December 24 to 27, and December 31 to January 2.

**NEW GALLERY EXHIBIT**

**Statements of Sanctum: Photographs from Winter**
January 8, 2017 – March 4, 2017
Tapestried by acute and unassuming vibrant light, the landscape in winter yields ripe opportunities to black and white and color photographers alike. Too often associated with the inhospitability of conditions, winter and its weather sculpt scenes of romantic rarity that indulge the gamut of artists -- whether it be the minimalist, those in search of whimsy, or anyone in between. It is truly a season of sanctum for us all. In honor of this time of year, The Ansel Adams Gallery will be hosting Statements of Sanctum, featuring fine art photographs by Ansel Adams, Bob Kolbrener, John Sexton, Keith Walklet, Michael Frye, Christopher Burkett and more, that showcase winter in all of its glory.

**COMING SOON, YOSEMITE RENAISSANCE 32!**
Yosemite Renaissance is an annual juried competition and exhibition, now in its 32nd year. The exhibit is held each year in the Museum Gallery and will run from February 24th through April 30th, 2017. Historically the arts have played a very important role in the establishment of our State and National Parks. Yosemite Renaissance was organized to continue this heritage and encourage diverse artistic interpretations of Yosemite National Park and the surrounding area. The exhibit features a variety of fine art mediums including painting, photography, drawing, printmaking, textiles, and sculpture created by artists from all around the country. Both representational and non-representational art will be on display with subjects ranging from landscape, environment, wildlife, and people of Yosemite and the Sierra Nevada. For more information please visit our website, yosemiterenaisance.org.

**The Ansel Adams Gallery**
The Ansel Adams Gallery is open daily from 9am to 5pm, closed on December 25. Beginning January 1, 2017, the hours of operation will be from 10am to 5pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other artists. For more information call 209/372-4211 or visit www.anseladams.com. See page 5 for photo walk and other event times.

**NEW GALLERY EXHIBIT**

**Uncommon Photographs of a Common World**
November 6, 2016 - January 7, 2017
With a candid eye and compassionate vision, photographers Mark Citret and Kerik Koudis have continually shared through their imagery a reverence for a world that is at once natural and urban, discreet and distinct, unique and ubiquitous, human and eternal. Their individual bodies of work each crosscress these themes diligently but with ease, their cameras finding earnest light on subjects many of us may take for granted – whether it be a stoic Half Dome, lazy suburban lane, a melancholy motel bathroom, or simply an empty room. The Ansel Adams Gallery is excited to showcase on its walls photographs from these two distinguished and extraordinary artists. On display will be original gelatin silver and platinum prints from their archives, including both new and familiar images made here in Yosemite to as far away as Mongolia. Please join us in Yosemite Village where the gallery is located, next door to the Valley Visitor Center.

**POST OFFICE**

**Yosemite Village Post Office**
Main Office: Monday - Friday, 8am to 5pm
Saturday, 10am to noon
Yosemite Lodge Post Office
Monday - Friday, 8am to 8pm
Saturday, 9am to noon

**Village Store**
Gift/Grocery 8am to 8pm

**The Majestic Yosemite Hotel**
Gift Shop 8am to 8pm

**El Portal**
Gift Shop 8am to 8pm

**Yosemite Village**
Gift Shop 8am to 8pm

**POST OFFICE**

**Big Trees Lodge**
Gift Shop 8am to 8pm

**Wawona Post Office**
Monday - Friday, 8am to 5pm
Saturday, 9am to noon

**BOOKS, GIFTS, APPAREL**

**The Ansel Adams Gallery**
9am to 5pm, Dec 24 - 9am to 3pm, Dec 25 - Closed, 10am to 5pm, beginning Jan 1, 2017
Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore
Inside Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
9am to 5pm
Yosemite Museum Store
9am to 5pm, may close for lunch
Village Store
8am to 8pm

**The Majestic Yosemite Hotel**
Gift Shop 8am to 8pm
Sweet Shop 7am to 10pm

**Yosemite Village Lodge**
Gift/Grocery 8am to 8pm

**Half Dome Village**
Gift/Grocery 8am to 8pm
Mountain Shop 8am to 6:30pm

**Shower and Laundry**

**Housekeeping Camp Launderomat**
8am to 11pm
Half Dome Village Showers
Open 24 hours

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**“Highlights, A View From The Meadow,” oil painting by Jeffrey Skelly, Yosemite Renaissance 31**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk – Wild About Bears</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:50pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk – Explore the Winter in Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger Walk – Yosemite’s First Peoples</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 mins.</td>
<td>Ranger Walk – Geology</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 hr.</td>
<td>Ranger Walk – Inspiring Generations</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 hr.</td>
<td>Ranger Program - Various Topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hr.</td>
<td>Ranger Program – Exploring the Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hr.</td>
<td>Ranger Program – Historic Majestic Hotel Tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hr.</td>
<td>Ranger Program – Ranger Walk – Yosemite’s First Peoples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hr.</td>
<td>Ranger Program – Ranger Walk – Yosemite’s Past</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

NATURALIST PROGRAMS
Naturalists give walks and talks about Yosemite’s natural and cultural history, every day. See page 5 for scheduled walks, talks, and evening programs.

TOURS
The Valley Floor Tour is a 26-mile, two-hour, guided tour of Yosemite Valley. It departs several times daily from Yosemite Valley Lodge, weather permitting. Call 209/372-1340 or inquire at the Tour and Activity Desk in the Yosemite Valley Lodge between 7:30am and 3pm.

WALKING AND HIKING
Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. Stop by Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for trail maps and current trail conditions, or see Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for trail walking and hiking possibilities. Stop by Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. Stop by Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for trail maps and current trail conditions, or see Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for trail walking and hiking possibilities.

SIGHTSEEING
Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley include:

- 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), showcases Yosemite Valley. Capture breathtaking views of El Capitan, Bridalveil Fall and Half Dome.
- It is particularly spectacular at sunset or after a clearing storm.

Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures (YC)
Yosemite Conservancy’s year-round outdoor adventures offer something for every park explorer. This winter, join us for a snowshoe hike to Dewey Point, above Yosemite Valley. As you make your way through a frosty forest, your experienced naturalist guide will point out winter wildlife, animal tracks, tree species and more. Enjoy lunch at the overlook, where you’ll find spectacular views of El Capitan, Ribbon Fall and other natural wonders. Trips are offered on January 7, February 11, March 4 and March 18. Pre-registration is required. To learn more, sign up and see our full adventure calendar, including wilderness permits for the Glacier Point area, Ostrander Ski Hut check-in and cross-country ski trail information available. It’s also the starting point for ranger led snowshoe walks.

YSSA Shuttle Schedule
Yosemite Valley to YSSA: Half Dome Village - 8am and 10:30am Yosemite Village - 8:10am and 10:40am Majestic Hotel - 8:15am and 10:45am Yosemite Valley Lodge - 8:30am and 11am YSSA to Yosemite Valley: 2pm and 4pm

ICE RINK AT HALF DOME VILLAGE
Take the shuttle to Half Dome Village for a one-of-a-kind ice skating experience with a spectacular view of Half Dome. The ice rink will be open daily beginning December 16, conditions permitting, from 12pm to 2:30pm, 3:30pm to 6pm, and 7pm to 9:30pm. On weekends and holidays, the ice rink is open from 8:30am to 11am, in addition to the daily hours.

YOSEMITE MOUNTAINEERING SCHOOL
Provides outdoor adventures for people of all experience levels. We are here to help you enjoy Yosemite outdoor sports safely, and responsibly. Join one of our group cross country skiing classes or schedule a custom outing designed specifically for your group. We offer professional guides for cross country skiing and snowshoeing, as well as hiking, and rock climbing (depending on weather). Reservations required for most activities, please call 209/372-8344 or email yms@aramark.com.

Yosemite’s natural and cultural history, every day. See page 5 for scheduled walks, talks, and evening programs.

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Things to Do

Winter Activities: Yosemite Valley and Beyond
Crane Flat
Big Trees Lodge Service Station
No gas in Yosemite Valley

GAS STATIONS
No gas in Yosemite Valley.

Yosemite Village Store
8am to 8pm

Big Trees Lodge General Store
8am to 6:30pm

Wawona

Visor Services

TOM’S performing.
Drop by the piano early in the evening when available by request and are usually given at 6:30pm to 9:30pm, as he performs songs prepared with your own bear canister. Hill’s Studio are valid on the front porch of Hill’s Studio. Self-registration wilderness permits are available at the Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Information Station. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

Wawona & Mariposa Grove

Wawona Wilderness Permits
Self-registration wilderness permits are available on the front porch of Hill’s Studio. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

Glacier Point Wilderness Permits
Self-registration wilderness permits are available at the Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area Ranger Station and are valid only for the Glacier Point Road trailhead. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

Evening Program
Between December 16 and 31, join Pianist/Singer Tom Bopp in the Big Trees Lodge lobby from 5:30pm to 9:30pm, as he performs songs and tells stories from Yosemite’s past, see page 5 for schedule. Historical programs are available by request and are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano early in the evening when Tom’s performing. The Big Trees Lodge will be open from December 16 to 31.

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 the year.

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

Great Things Are Happening in the Mariposa Grove
The Restoration of the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias Project is now underway! On July 6, 2015, a temporary closure of the grove for up to 24 months began. The restoration project will improve the habitat and restore the hydrology of the Mariposa Grove and improve visitors’ experience and enjoyment of the grove. Trails will be improved providing universal access along with improved restrooms.

The Mariposa Grove Road is closed to all public access due to restoration, including bicycle and pedestrian traffic. Hiking trails within the grove are also closed.

Big Oak Flat Wilderness Permits
Wilderness permits valid for the Crane Flat area and Tioga Road only, are available by self-registration on the front porch of the information station. Please come prepared with your own bear canister. The center is located just inside the park entrance on Hwy 120/W.

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 1.5 miles, making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. There is no potable water 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 Big Oak Flat and Tioga road intersection 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.

General Services

Yosemite Village Garage
8am to 5pm, Towing available 24 hours. Prepaid available until 6:30pm.

Medical Clinic (Yosemite Valley)
Monday - Friday, 8am to 5pm,
Closed weekends and federal holidays. For emergency care after 5pm, call 9-1-1.

Mediclinic: Phone: 209/372-4637.

Religious Services
Church of Christ (Non-denominational)
El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am
Info: 209/379-2100

Yosemite Community Church
Pastor Brent Moore - Resident Minister
209/372-4831 • www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org
www.YosemiteValleyChapelWeddings.org
Sunday Services in the Yosemite Chapel:
9:15am - Sunday School and Nursery Available
6:30pm - Evening Services/Bible Study in Chapel
Tuesday Evening Bible Study
7pm, Call for location

Wednesday Mid-Week Services
7pm, at the Chapel
Christmas Eve Candelight Service - 4pm

New Years Eve Chapel Service - 10pm-12am

Roman Catholic Mass
Our Lady of the Snows
Sunday, 10am, East Auditorium behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, shuttle stops #4/9.
Rectory Phone: 209/372-4729

Service Organizations
Alcoholics Anonymous
Yosemite Valley Chapel
Sunday: 8am to 10am

Lions Club
First and third Thursday of each month at noon, The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Call 209/372-4475

Although the Mariposa Grove is closed for restoration, the Tuolumne and Merced Groves remain open and are considered park highlights. NPS Photo

Pioneer Yosemite History Center
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Winter in Yosemite National Park brings the closure of our centennial year and what an exciting year it has been! This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy smaller crowds and to experience a different personality in the Park. Winter is a favorite time for viewing wildlife and for capturing Yosemite’s beauty on camera and canvas. Moreover, outdoor recreation opportunities abound. However, winter also creates its own challenges for staying safe and comfortable but with a little planning, preparation, and awareness your winter visit to Yosemite will be pleasantly rewarded.

PROTECTING YOURSELF...

Winter is unpredictable, therefore, prepare for all winter weather extremes. Rather than adding or reducing layers as follows: weather is unpredictable, therefore, prepare for all winter weather extremes. Rather than

WEATHER

- Base layer – synthetics, wool, or silk, never cotton. This layer is meant to pull moisture away from your skin so that you will feel dry.
- Mid layer – insulation to keep warm. Many outdoor enthusiasts enjoy fleece or wool.
- Outer layer shell – protects you from outside moisture, i.e., rain and snow. Newer materials are designed to “breath” to reduce sweating while also keeping water out.
- Hat – one suitable for keeping your head warm and dry. A good knit hat that is long enough to cover your ears can make a big difference. Keep warm with scarves and neck gaters.
- Shoes – wear sturdy boots that protect your feet from rain, snow, and slush. Your boots should never be tight or you will lose circulation, which will make your cold. Thick wool or synthetic socks help keep your feet warm and dry. Carry extra socks.
- Gloves – have an extra pair in case your first pair gets wet. Weather varies drastically in the park depending on elevation, with temperatures cooling by as much as five degrees for every 1,000 feet of elevation gain. At night, the Park can experience colder air sinking to the valley floor. Always check the latest weather forecast but prepare for wide-ranging temperatures, rain, snow, and ice.

NAVIGATION

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

SNOW PLAY

Snow opens up exciting winter recreational opportunities in Yosemite. To keep the fun in your recreation, be realistic about your physical limits and stay within them.

PLAGUE

Plague is an infectious bacterial disease that is carried by squirrels, chipmunks and other wild rodents and their fleas. When an infected rodent becomes sick and dies, its fleas can carry the infection to other animals, including humans.

To protect yourself from plague, never feed wildlife, avoid dropping food scraps when eating outside, avoid pitching a tent near or disturbing rodent burrows, wear insect repellent with DEET, and immediately tell a park ranger if you see a dead animal.

Early symptoms of plague may include fever, chills, nausea, painful swelling at the site of an insect bite or lymph node, and other flu-like symptoms. If you develop any of these symptoms within 6 days of visiting an area at risk for plague in the park, see your doctor and inform them you may have been exposed. Plague is treatable with antibiotics if given in time.

HALF DOME PERMIT INFORMATION

The Half Dome Cables are down for the season. They will be put back up May 26, 2017, conditions permitting. Permits are required 7 days a week when the cables are up. The pre-season lottery application period for 2017 permits begins March 1, 2017, and ends March 31, 2017. To apply for permits visit www.recreation.gov or you can call 877/444-6777. More information about the Half Dome permit process is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/halfpermits.htm.
Yosemite bears may still be active during the winter months. Please, keep Yosemite’s black bears wild and alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

**Keeping Bears Wild**

Yosemite bears may still be active during the winter months. Please, keep Yosemite’s black bears wild and alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

**How to Store Food**

*“Food” includes any items 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 vehicle (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! Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even knock food lockers to see if they’re secured. Keep food lockers closed and locked at all times, even when you are in your campsites or tent cabins. Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert. 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 way to store food.

**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 lockers with ventilation slits. Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even knock food lockers to see if they’re secured. Keep food lockers closed and locked at all times, even when you are in your campsites or tent cabins. 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 way to store food.

**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. 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 way to store food.

**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 way to store food.

**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 nibbling 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. 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.

**Wilderness Etiquette: Using Your Backwoods Bathroom**

When you “do,” make sure you’re at least 200 feet away from any water source. Dig a hole in soil that’s at least six inches deep so you’re able to bury your waste when you’re done. Follow Leave No Trace protocols and always pack out toilet paper in ziplocked bags, never bury it or burn it.

**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
- 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 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/yousafety.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.

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**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</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>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6</td>
<td>1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7.2 miles round-trip, 6-8 hours</td>
<td>Very Strainus, 2,700-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror Lake (5 seasonal lake)</td>
<td>Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernal Fall Foottub</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #15</td>
<td>1.4 miles round-trip, 1-2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate, 400-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Vernal Fall</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>3 miles round-trip, 2-4 hours</td>
<td>Strainus, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>3 miles round-trip, 5-6 hours</td>
<td>Strainus, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Closed in winter)</td>
<td>Southside Drive</td>
<td>4.8 miles one-way, 3-4 hours</td>
<td>Very Strainus, 3,200-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Floor Loop</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6</td>
<td>13 miles full loop, 5-7 hours full loop</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Many people believe that the idea of national parks was born with Yosemite, but regardless of whether or not that is true, it ultimately became an idea that spread around the world. In the process of that journey, the notion of publicly protected land has been molded and reimagined in many ways to suit the different places where protected areas are found. Yet, Yosemite and other national parks and protected areas worldwide are still linked, not only by natural and cultural phenomena that cross international borders, but by a mutual desire to preserve and protect its public lands.

The National Park Service and Yosemite have been a global inspiration. With over a century of dedication, commitment and experience in the management of public lands, Yosemite is now working to share knowledge of its best practices in park management with others.

The International Affairs Program (IA) at Yosemite National Park was appointed the mission to help the park serve as a leadership campus for the National Park Service. With a mission to develop a sister park relationship on every continent, except Antarctica, the IA program began an effort to build up its international relationships in 2013. It started with three existing sister parks (Jiuzhaigou and Huangshan national parks in China and Torres del Paine National Park in Chile), then added several new sister parks over the last few years, until accomplishing its goal this year. On September 29, 2016, Yosemite welcomed its last three sister parks to its family: Wadi Rum Protected Area in Jordan, Cumbres de Monterrey National Park in Mexico, and Blue Mountains National Park in Australia.

“We are elated to formally welcome three new international sister parks,” stated Mike Gauthier, Yosemite Chief of Staff and International Affairs Program Manager. “We are excited to collaborate with our peers and bring rangers from across the world together as we work to address many challenges facing parks and protected areas worldwide.”

Also, beginning on September 27, 2016, Yosemite hosted “Partners in Global Conservation,” its first three-day international symposium, which welcomed delegates from its sister parks and other protected areas, gateway communities, and other park partners, including Yosemite Conservancy, Nature Bridge, Yosemite Hospitality, Global Parks, Subaru, and the Mongolia Ecology Center, all aiming to strengthen international relations and to collaborate and learn from one another.

“A lot of the problems that park managers deal with, whether here, or in Nepal, or in Chile, are problems that are bigger than the park, like dealing with climate change, or the introduction of invasive species,” said International Affairs Ranger Jodi Bailey. “The symposium gave us an opportunity to learn from and share with our colleagues, the variety of ways people approach those issues, which is really helpful because we’re all trying to work on keeping our visitors safe, managing resources, and protecting the natural and cultural resources under our stewardship.”

Panel discussions at the symposium focused on the importance and advantages of partnerships, on managing crowds and high visitation, and on handling human and wildlife interactions, among other matters.

“We picked a number of topics that were similar to us all, for example, we had a panel session on managing high visitation because most of the parks that came share that problem at one level or another,” Baily said. “We also had a panel session on visitor and wildlife interaction and safety; we have bears in Yosemite, they have bears in Cumbres de Monterrey in Mexico, other big animals in Ngoringorong and tigers in Chinawan, so it was good to have this community of practice that we could approach to figure out how to solve some of these common problems together.”

Now, Yosemite intends to start investing time in strengthening its sister park relationships by implementing projects from short action plans that were mutually developed with each park, and start figuring ways to produce tangible results, and connecting the global community in the pursuit to protect their public lands.

Yosemite has sister park arrangements with 15 parks in 9 countries, including:
- Yellowstone National Park, China
- Jiuzhaigou National Park, China
- Torres del Paine National Park, Chile
- Berchtesgaden National Park, Germany
- Lake Tzorgol National Park, Mongolia
- Tengis-Shiriz National Park, Mongolia
- Ulaan Sagai Protected Area, Mongolia
- Horidal Saridag Protected Area, Mongolia
- Chitwan National Park, Nepal
- Langtang National Park, Nepal
- Sagarmatha National Park, Nepal
- Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Tanzania
- Wadi Rum Protected Area, Jordan
- Cumbres de Monterrey National Park, Mexico
- Blue Mountains National Park, Australia
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.

Yosemite Hospitality LLC

Yosemite Hospitality, a division 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 encourages employees to immerse themselves in the Park and all of the experiences offered.

For more information on employment opportunities with Yosemite Hospitality at Yosemite National Park visit www.yosemitehospitalityjobs.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 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

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. Work funded by the Conservancy is visible throughout the park, in trail rehabilitation, wildlife protection and habitat restoration. The Conservancy is also dedicated to enhancing the visitor experience and providing a deeper connection to the park through outdoor programs, volunteering, wilderness services and its bookstores. Thanks to dedicated supporters, the Conservancy has provided more than $100 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Learn more at www.yosemiteconservancy.org or call 415/434-1782.

Yosemite Volunteers: Serving Yosemite

Over 10,800 volunteers donated more than 186,000 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/getinvolved/volunteer.htm or call the volunteer office at 209/379-1850.

Yosemite Name Changes

The names of the following facilities in Yosemite have changed.

The changed names are:

- Half Dome Village (formerly Curry Village)
- Yosemite Valley Lodge (formerly Yosemite Lodge)
- The Majestic Yosemite Hotel (formerly The Ahwahnee)
- Big Trees Lodge (formerly Wawona Hotel)
- Yosemite Ski & Snowboard Area (formerly Badger Pass Ski Area)
- Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge)

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