Due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19, visitor services and access may be affected. Check local resources, area signage, and our park website for updates, www.nps.gov/yose. Please follow CDC guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

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

**UPDATE**

Winter Weather Driving and Chain Control Information:

Winter road conditions through Yosemite can vary widely and may require tire chains. **Chain requirements are strictly enforced.** For updated 24-hour road and weather conditions for Yosemite National Park, please call 209/372-0200. Signs will indicate when chains are required. Here is a summary of chain control signs on Yosemite roads:

**R1** - All vehicles without mud and snow tires are required to install chains/cables. Vehicles with mud and snow tires do not, but must still carry chains. See chain control regulations on www.nps.gov/yose for vehicles towing trailers.

**R2** - Chains/cables must be installed on ALL vehicles except 4-wheel/all-wheel drive vehicles with mud and snow tires. Four-wheel drive vehicles must have 4-wheel drive engaged.

**R3** - ALL vehicles are required to install chains/cables, regardless of having mud and snow tires or 4-wheel/all-wheel drive capability. NO EXCEPTIONS. *"M+S" will be on the side of your tires if they are mud and snow tires.*
**COVID-19 Coronavirus SAFETY ALERT**

For your safety and the safety of other visitors and employees, we encourage you to follow CDC guidance to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

- Practice social distancing. Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet between you and others.
- Wash hands using soap and water or use hand sanitizer frequently.
- Wear a face covering when social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
- Additionally, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, and most importantly, stay home if you feel sick.

**WELCOME Ask A Ranger**

Drop by the visitor contact station located behind the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center to ask your Yosemite-related questions and to get park information and updates. Look for signs to direct you to the exact location. Open 9am to 4pm, then from 9am to 4:10pm beginning January 16 to February 12.

**Park App**
Download the Yosemite app for an interactive map, hiking trails, and park updates. See page 11 for more information.

**Things to Do Winter in Yosemite**

**How Will COVID-19 Impact My Visit?**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currently open and available</th>
<th>Not open or available at this time</th>
<th>Unavailable in 2020/early 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An outdoor visitor contact station is located behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.</td>
<td>Visitor Centers are closed until further notice.</td>
<td>All shuttles and tours are canceled during this time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most roads and trails are open. Some trails may be closed or re-routed.</td>
<td>Some campgrounds are currently closed.</td>
<td>Yosemite Theater and Yosemite Museum will be closed during this time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Pines campground is open and reservations are required.</td>
<td>Most programs are canceled until further notice</td>
<td>There is no first come, first served camping.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select dining and shopping establishments are open and encourage social distancing.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Lodge and services are closed during this time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What Does 6-ft Look Like?**

The wing span of a bald eagle is roughly 6 feet long. While social distancing, imagine the length of a soaring eagle's wing span between you and others.

**Entrusting a National Park**

Yosemite is a place where wilderness prevails. Prepare yourself for a wild experience. The National Park Service is bound by its mission to protect Yosemite’s natural and cultural resources for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. Please, be attentive to the regulations in place to protect park resources (page 6) and those designed for your safety (page 8).

**Fire – Police – Medical Emergency:** Dial 911

- Medical Clinic (in Yosemite Valley) Open 7 days per week from 9am to 7pm. Medical Clinic Phone: (209) 372-4637.
- Road, Weather, and Park Information: (209) 372-0200
- Yosemite Village Garages: 8am to 5pm. 24 Hour AAA towing. No gas, propane service until 4:30pm. (209) 372-1060

**Access for People with Disabilities**

For a complete list of accessible services, exhibits, and recreational opportunities, pick up a Yosemite Accessibility Guide at any park entrance station or visitor center, or view online at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm, or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at (209) 379-1035.

- 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 available upon advance request at any visitor center.
- Audio tours available at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.
- Accessible parking spaces available west of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

**Upcoming Park Projects**

**Bridalveil Fall Rehabilitation Project**

Why: To rehabilitate visitor facilities at the base of Bridalveil Fall and surrounding area, and to protect natural and cultural resources in the area.

- When: 2019 - 2020
- Visitor Impact: Trail, comfort station and parking lot may not be available due to construction.

**Tioga Road Rehabilitation Plan**

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

- When: 2020 and 2021 seasons
- Visitor Impact: 30-minute traffic delays along Tioga Road due to construction.

**Things to Do in Yosemite Valley**

**Custom Yosemite Experiences**
Join a Yosemite Conservancy naturalist guide for a Custom Adventure designed to fit your interests and schedule. Options include day hikes, birding walks, stargazing programs, backpacking trips, and more. For more information, contact adventures@yosemite.org or visit yosemite.org/custom-adventures.

**The Ansel Adams Gallery Photography Excursions**

Sign up for 2-4 hour photography classes, private guided tours, or camera walks led by resident staff photographers. Call ahead for reservations: (209) 372-4413 or visit anseladams.com/photography-education. See page 4.

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

**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.

**Things to Do Outside Yosemite Valley**

**Cable Flat Snow Play Area**

A snow play area is open at Cable Flat Campground in winter when enough snow is present. Please do not sled onto roadways!

**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.

**Inside:**

- 01 Things to Do
- 04 Exhibits and Programs
- 05 Services
- 07 Permit Information
- 09 Protecting Yourself
- 10 Feature Story
- Back Shuttle Map
Discover Yosemite
Let your curiosity guide you to new places

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

Reservations
Campground Reservations (877) 444-6777; www.recreation.gov
Lodging Reservations (888) 413-8869
Yosemite Village Parking
Walking Routes
Average Walking Times
5 Campground
1 Picnic Area
2 Restroom
Walk-In Campground

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

The Tioga Road and Glacier Point Road close after the first significant snowfall. Overnight parking on these roads end October 15. For current road and weather information, please call (209)732-0200.

Mariposa Grove Road CLOSES after the first significant snowfall.
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 or car, 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 Badger Pass Ski 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, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail leads you to a stunning view looking into Yosemite Valley.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park’s south entrance station. While the Mariposa Grove Road closes to cars in the winter, approximately from the end of November until mid-March, the road is open to hikers, snowshoers, and skiers, and all trails in the grove remain open for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. 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.

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

Crane Flat is located 16 miles from Yosemite Valley at the junction of the Big Oak Flats 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 (1½ hour) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from 8am to 5pm. Vehicles and/or trailers over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not permitted on the narrow, windsing Hetch Hetchy Road.

Buy Your Site Pass on Recreation.gov

Purchase your Yosemite National Park site pass on Recreation.gov before you arrive. Your site pass can easily be downloaded on your phone or tablet, or be printed to be displayed when you arrive. Learn more at https://www.recreation.gov/sitepass/74296
Experience Your America Yosemite National Park explores plants they used for survival. Check out the Village of Ahwahnee and learn about the Walk through the reconstructed Indian INDIAN CULTURAL VILLAGE. Closed during the 2020 season.

Yosemite Museum Closed during the 2020 season.

YOSEMITE THEATER Located in Yosemite Village.

Conservancy Bookstore will also be operating as an outdoor “to-go” store from 9am to 5pm. Located in Yosemite Village.

YOSEMITE THEATER Closed during the 2020 season.

YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY (YC) OUTDOOR ADVENTURES AND MORE Join Yosemite Conservancy for a memorable park experience! Pregistration is required. Upcoming naturalist-led programs include:

• Campfire Stories: Storytelling program. Dec 26, 6:30pm–7:30pm, Valley Visitor Center. $ Winter Explorations: Join a naturalist guide for a winter hike or snowshoe, conditions permitting. Snowshoes provided, as needed!
  • Saturdays, Dec 26-Jan 3D: Badger Pass snowshoe hikes (9am–12pm and 1pm–4pm) $  
  • Jan 2 and Jan 17: Dewey Point snowshoe hike (8am–4pm) $  
  • Jan 3D: Yosemite Valley winter hike or snowshoe (9am–3pm) $  
  • Feb 6: Tuolumne Grove/Clouds Flat winter hike or snowshoe (9am–4pm) $  
  • Feb 14: Mariposa Grove winter hike or snowshoe (9am–4pm) $  

Learn more about all our upcoming adventures and sign up: yosemite.org/adventures.

THE ANSEL ADAMS GALLERY - PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES The Gallery is temporarily closed. Photography Classes have been postponed until the Gallery resumes operations. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery.

The Ansel Adams Gallery is temporarily closed to visitors. In light of recent Stay-At-Home orders, The Ansel Adams Gallery is temporarily closed to visitors. Photography classes have been postponed until the Gallery resumes operations. The Gallery is temporarily closed. Photography classes have been postponed until the Gallery resumes operations. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery.

Yosemite Conservancy YOSEMITE CONSERVANCY ADVENTURES Join Yosemite Conservancy (YC) for a memorable experience in the park this winter! Enjoy an evening around the campfire with storyteller Brian Shoos; check out our upcoming Outdoor Adventures winter hikes; or plan a Custom Adventure with one of our naturalists. Advanced registration is required. See the Programs section below for more details. Explore our website (yosemite.org) and follow us on social media to learn more about our organization and browse our program calendar.
## Services in Yosemite

### Services in Yosemite

**COVID-19 Coronavirus**

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

---

### Food and Drink

#### YOSEMITE VILLAGE
- **Degnan’s Kitchen**
  - 7am to 11am; 11:30am to 6pm
- **The Loft at Degnan’s**
  - Closed for the Season

#### THE AHWAHNEE
- **Dining Room**
  - **Breakfast**:
    - 7am to 10am
  - **Lunch**:
    - 11am to 4pm
  - **Dinner**:
    - 5:30pm to 8:30pm

#### YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE
- **Starbucks Coffee**
  - Thursday - Sunday: 7am to 3pm
- **Base Camp Eatery**
  - **Breakfast**: 7:30am to 10am
  - **Lunch**: 11am to 2pm
  - **Dinner**: 4pm to 8pm

#### CURRY VILLAGE
- **Pizza Deck**
  - Closed for the Season
- **Coffee Corner**
  - Closed for the Season
- **Wawona AREA**
  - **Wawona Hotel**
    - Closed for the Season
  - **BADGER PASS SKI AREA DINING**
    - Temporarily closed due to COVID-19

### Groceries

#### YOSEMITE VILLAGE
- **Village Store**
  - 9am to 7pm

#### YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE
- **Gift/Grocery**
  - 10am to 6pm

#### CURRY VILLAGE
- **Gift/Grocery**
  - Closed for the Season

### Post Offices

#### YOSEMITE VILLAGE
- **Main Office**
  - Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm,
  - Closed during federal holidays

#### YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE
- **Gift/Grocery**
  - 11am to 3pm

### General Services

#### Medical Clinic - Yosemite Valley
- (209) 372-4637
- For emergency care CALL 9-1-1
- Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm,
  - Closed during federal holidays

#### Yosemite Village Garage
- Towing available 24 hours, in addition to emergency services for vehicles.
- NO gas in Yosemite Valley.

### Gas Stations

#### EL PORTAL
- Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

#### WAWONA SERVICE STATION
- Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card.

#### CRANE FLAT
- Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

### Books, Gifts, & Apparel

#### YOSEMITE VILLAGE
- **Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore**
  - at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
  - Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm,
  - Saturday & Sunday: 9am to 4pm
  - (operating as an outdoor “to-go” store)

#### WAWONA AREA
- **Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop**
  - 11am to 3pm

---

**Religious Services**

#### YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH
- Pastor Brent Moore: Resident Minister
- (209) 372-4831 • www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org
- **Sunday Service**: 9:15am and 11:15am
- **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLESERVICE**
  - Thursday, December 24 at 4pm and 5:15pm
- **NEW YEARS EVE WATCHLIGHT SERVICE**
  - Thursday, December 31 at 10:30pm
  - Wednesday Midweek Chapel Service 7pm
- **Thursday Bible Study (call for location)**
  - 7pm

*Subject to Covid-19 policies. Please call the chapel office at 209/372-4831 for the current information about indoor services.

#### CHURCH OF CHRIST (Non-denominational)
- El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am
- Info: 209/379-2100

#### OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS
- **Catholic Mass**
  - Sunday: 10:00 a.m.
  - Visitor Center Theater
  - Shuttle stop #7 or #9

### Service Organizations

#### AAA Alcohols Anonymous
- No meetings at this time
- Oakhurst Hotline: 559/683-1662

---

The Yosemite Chapel celebrated 140 years of service in 2019. Photo by Sheree Peshlakai

---

The Yosemite Guide celebrated 140 years of service in 2019. Photo by Sheree Peshlakai

---

For emergency care CALL 9-1-1
- Monday - Friday: 9am to 5pm,
  - Closed during federal holidays

---

Image by Tom Whitworth
Choose your adventure

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

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Fall - CLOSED due to Construction</td>
<td>Bridalveil Fall Parking Area</td>
<td>0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>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 Trail to Columbia Rock</td>
<td>Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 2–3 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Upper Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7.2 miles round-trip, 3–4 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror Lake (A 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 Footbridge</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</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>Strenuous 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>5 miles round-trip, 4–6 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Partially closed in winter)</em></td>
<td>Southside Drive</td>
<td>4.8 miles one-way, 3–4 hours one-way</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 2,000-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>

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

PARK UPDATE

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

Know Before You Go:

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

Please wear a facecovering when social distancing cannot be maintained. NPS Images

Choose your adventure

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

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Fall - CLOSED due to Construction</td>
<td>Bridalveil Fall Parking Area</td>
<td>0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>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 Trail to Columbia Rock</td>
<td>Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 2–3 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Upper Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7.2 miles round-trip, 3–4 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror Lake (A 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 Footbridge</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</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>Strenuous 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>5 miles round-trip, 4–6 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Partially closed in winter)</em></td>
<td>Southside Drive</td>
<td>4.8 miles one-way, 3–4 hours one-way</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 2,000-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>

*Trails may be closed due to unsafe conditions. Ask a ranger for current conditions and heed all warning and closure signs!
Permit Information
Camping, Hiking, and Wilderness Use

Wilderness Permits
Wilderness permits are required year round for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Self-registration quota sheets and permits are available at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, Hill’s Studio in Wawona, Big Oak Flat Information Station, Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station and at the Badger Pass A-Frame (condition permitting). Bear canisters are only available for rent at the Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore in the Valley Visitor Center. For summer trips, reservations are taken 24 weeks (168 days) in advance of the start of your trip. Visit https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm to view a helpful chart. A processing fee of $5 per permit plus $5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Go to www.nps.gov/go.nps.gov or call 877/444-6777. More information about the Half Dome permit process is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdppermits.htm.

YOSEMITE VALLEY
Wilderness permits for Yosemite Valley trailheads are available by self-registration in front of the visitor center. Bear canisters are available for rent or to buy at the bookstore. See pg. 8 for details on wilderness travel and safety.

WAWONA AND MARIPOSA GROVE
Self-registration wilderness permits for the Wawona and Glacier Point Road trailheads only are available on the front porch of Hill’s Studio. Please come prepared with your own bear canister. Hill’s Studio is located on the grounds of the Wawona Hotel.

BIG OAK FLAT
Self-registration wilderness permits for the Crane Flat area and Tioga Road trailheads only are available 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 120W.

GLACIER POINT
Self-registration wilderness permits for the Glacier Point Road trailheads only are available at the Badger Pass A-Frame.

HETCH HETCHY
Self-registration wilderness permits for Hetch Hetchy trailheads only are available at the Entrance Station daily from 8am to 5pm. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

Half Dome Permit Information
The Half Dome Cables are down for the season. They will be put back up May 28, 2021. For more information about the Half Dome permit process is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdppermits.htm.

Camping
Upper Pines is open year-round during the 2020 season. For more information on camping opening dates, visit our website go.nps.gov/campground.

Fire Restrictions Are In Effect for the Entire Park
- Pile burning will take place throughout the winter. Make sure to heed all posted signs.
- Campfires and charcoal grills should always be completely extinguished before you leave by drowning with water, stirring with a tool, and feeling with your hand. If it’s too hot to touch it’s too hot to leave.
- Smoking is not allowed inside public buildings or restrooms, within 25 feet of any building except those used as single-family residence, or other areas as posted. Smoking while traveling on trail is prohibited. Persons who wish to smoke must stop and remain in one location until they have extinguished their smoking material. Pack out all debris.
- Smoke is inevitable throughout the year in different parts of the park, whether from campfires, natural wildfire in the backcountry, or prescribed fire. The park may also experience smoke impacts from other areas throughout the region. To help plan your trip look up the air quality page on the park’s website.

CAMPING RESERVATIONS
In Yosemite Valley’s car campgrounds, reservations are required year-round. Outside the valley, reservations are required summer through fall for Hodgdon Meadow, Crane Flat, Wawona, and half of Tuolumne Meadows. All other campgrounds (except group and stock campgrounds) are first-come, first-served. Campground reservations are available up to five months in advance, on the 15th of each month at 7am Pacific time. Log onto the website or call as soon as possible as some campgrounds fill within a few minutes of the opening period.

For campground reservations, visit www.recreation.gov (recommended) or call 877/444-6777 or TDD 877/833-6777 or 518/885-3639 from outside the US and Canada.
A SEASON OF TRANSITION
What will Yosemite's weather be like this time of year? No one knows! This is a season of transition. You might experience several weather extremes in one day. So, be prepared for wide ranging temperatures, rain, snow, and sunshine at any elevation.

RIVERS AND STREAMS
Rain and melting snow can cause our rivers and streams to flow fast and high. Yosemite's streams are a huge temptation for the curious. Yosemite's water is deceptively dangerous and unforgiving, even during low flow. Visitors are strongly urged to enjoy moving or falling water from a safe distance.

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

WEATHER
Your best approach to the weather is to check the latest forecast and be prepared for all extremes. Dress in layers so you can adjust to weather changes. Weather in mountainous climates, like Yosemite, varies drastically depending on elevation, with temperatures cooling by as much as five degrees for every 1,000 feet of elevation gain; a moderate rain in the Valley can be a white-out blizzard with just a short drive or hike.

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

YOSEMITE'S ROADS
Weather is unpredictable and changes quickly which can impact our Park's roads. Plan for all potential road conditions; call ahead to our recorded number 209/372-0200 +1+1 for current conditions and restrictions. Be aware of changing conditions such as moisture freezing on the road surface or remaining frozen in shadows even while other surfaces have thawed. Always carry tire chains, it's the law.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Protecting yourself...
Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.
There are many ways to experience the wildness of Yosemite. While the forces of nature can create unexpected hazardous conditions, with a little common sense and some pre-planning, you can minimize the risks associated with many activities.
Keep Bears Wild
With warmer spring weather, bears emerge hungry from hibernation. Please, keep Yosemite’s black bears wild and alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

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

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

IF YOU SEE A BEAR...
— stay away or keep your distance. You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away. Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there are more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear. If you see a bear anywhere else, consider yourself lucky— but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will be helping the bear become used to being around people. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed. Report bear sightings and incidents to the Save-A-Bear hotline (209)372-0322 or by emailing yose_bear_mgmt@nps.gov. For more information about bears in Yosemite please visit www.keepbearswild.org.

Clean water is a precious resource for all living beings -
You can protect these waters and this pristine watershed which supplies drinking water for nearly 4 million people watching over Yosemite'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, be aware that there are people who either unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

- Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Collecting plants
- Hunting animals
- Collecting reptiles and butterflies
- Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Biking off of paved roads
- Camping outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities
- Possessing or using marijuana, including medical marijuana
- Operating an unmanned aircraft system (“drone”)

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

E-BIKES
E-bikes with two or three wheels, fully operable pedals, and electric motors less than 750 watts (1 horsepowers) are allowed on roads open to cars, as well as on Happy Isles Road and Mirror Lake Road. They are not allowed on bike paths or trails.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm.

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

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

- Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Collecting plants
- Hunting animals
- Collecting reptiles and butterflies
- Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Biking off of paved roads
- Camping outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities
- Possessing or using marijuana, including medical marijuana
- Operating an unmanned aircraft system (“drone”)

If you see activities that could harm people or park resources, jot down any descriptions or a vehicle license plate number and call (209) 379-1992.
In the heart of the Yosemite Village stands a 100 year old building: the iconic Ranger's Club. Celebrating its centennial year, the building continues to be the quintessential example of the National Park Service (NPS) Rustic Style of architecture and as an embodiment of early Park leadership's goals for the future of Park Ranger life. The Ranger's Club turned 100 years old on September 26, 2020, and its continued use as a gathering place and home for Park Rangers fulfills the long-held desire of NPS's first director, Stephen Mather, whose personal funds helped construct the building.

“...the ranger force of every park, considering the nature of its work, should have dry, sanitary quarters...” When Stephen Mather made this statement to Congress in 1920, he wanted more than just a roof over his Rangers' heads. He wanted to create a dedicated group of Rangers who would represent the ideals and concepts of the recently formed NPS to not only the physical comfort, but the provision of a space for relaxation, reflection, and rest. The Rangers' Club was the first structure designed to house Rangers and Volunteers in the park, and on occasion hosts delegations of esteemed visitors...”

The building was created by San Francisco architect Charles Sumner with preliminary design work by Charles Puchard. The Rangers' Club was the first structure design approved for the new administrative village at Yosemite, which grew to include the Administrative building, Museum, Post Office, and certain concessions. Puchard and Sumner would follow Mather's vision of a village designed with a unified theme replacing the haphazard development of the old village, largely built by early concessionaires without regard to harmony with the environment. The first NPS landscape design office was based in Yosemite and it was here that the emerging style was developed and refined. Designers, such as the first park service landscape engineer, Charles Punchard, would lead the way in developing a coherent design for Yosemite and other parks.

Using money from his own pocket to build the dormitory style building, Mather would often stay there when visiting Yosemite and kept his own personal library and Victrola collection of sound recordings in the shared living area. The Victrola recordings were moved to the archives in 2006 to digitize the sound recording and preserve them. Letters from Horace Albright, written in 1976, describe some of these reasons for Mather's donation of the building: “...the moral responsibility of democratic governments to preserve regions of extraordinary natural beauty for the benefit of the whole people”. His ideas were a strong influence on Stephen Mather and his goal to have the manmade beauty for the benefit of the whole people.

Envisioned and promoted by Mather, his ideas were heavily influenced by Frederick Law Olmstead who introduced the concept of Landscape architecture into the United States. Olmstead, along with Calvert Vaux, won the contract in 1857 to design Central Park in New York, and subsequently Olmstead served as one of the first Commissioners of Yosemite and the Mariposa Grove of Big Trees in 1865. He was passionate that, “…the moral responsibility of democratic governments to preserve regions of extraordinary natural beauty for the benefit of the whole people”. His ideas were a strong influence on Stephen Mather and his goal to have the manmade integrate with the natural landscape. As a result, Yosemite National Park became the birthplace of the NPS Rustic Style of architecture.

The building is still used to house Rangers and Volunteers in the park, and on occasion hosts delegations of esteemed visitors.

For more information on the Rangers' Club, contact the Yosemite Archives or Library.

Story by: Virginia Sanchez, Park Librarian
Gioia Spatafora, Project Archivist
Paul Rogers, Park Archivist
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 1903, is a center that celebrates the arts and the natural grandeur of our environment. It cultivates an aesthetic appreciation and concern for our world’s environment. It cultivates an aesthetic appreciation and concern for our world’s environment. It cultivates an aesthetic appreciation and concern for our world’s environment. It cultivates an aesthetic appreciation and concern for our world.

Yosemite Hospitality LLC

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

NatureBridge

NatureBridge provides educational 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

Yosemite Conservancy inspires people to support projects and programs that preserve Yosemite National Park and enrich the visitor experience for all. Thanks to generous donors, the Conservancy has provided over $130 million in grants to the park to restore trails and habitat, protect wildlife, provide educational programs, and more. The Conservancy’s guided adventures, volunteer opportunities, wilderness services and bookstores help visitors of all ages connect with Yosemite. Learn more: yosemite.org or (415) 434-1782.

Yosemite Volunteers: Serving Yosemite

Over 10,374 volunteers donated more than 139,500 hours of service to Yosemite last year, restoring native habitat, working in visitor centers, serving as camp hosts, studying wildlife, cleaning up litter and more. Would you like to serve? We have 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 National Park App

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 to support projects and programs that preserve Yosemite National Park and enrich the visitor experience for all. Thanks to generous donors, the Conservancy has provided over $130 million in grants to the park to restore trails and habitat, protect wildlife, provide educational programs, and more. The Conservancy’s guided adventures, volunteer opportunities, wilderness services and bookstores help visitors of all ages connect with Yosemite. Learn more: yosemite.org or (415) 434-1782.

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

Yosemite National Park

Looking for a Hiking Trail?

Check out the TRAILHEADS tab, located within the SERVICES tab.