Wearing a face mask is required in federal buildings regardless of vaccination status. Check local resources, area signage, and our park website for updates, www.nps.gov/yose.
WINTER SPORTS

Badger Pass Ski Area
Badger Pass Ski Area opens on December 17, weather and road conditions permitting. Live information on winter sports is available by calling (209) 372-8430; recorded information is available at (209) 372-1000. See page 10 for service hours.

Badger Pass Shuttle (FREE)
The free shuttle service to and from Badger Pass Ski Area begins December 17, weather and road conditions permitting. Badger Pass shuttle arrival and departure times are subject to change due to traffic and weather conditions.

Badger Pass Shuttle Schedule
- Yosemite Valley to Badger Pass Departures
  - Curry Village: 8:05am and 10:35am
  - Yosemite Village (YTS): 8:10am and 10:40am
  - Ahwahnee Hotel: 8:15am and 10:45am
- Badger Pass to Yosemite Valley Departures
  - Badger Pass: 7:30am and 10:00am
  - Ahwahnee Hotel: 8:05am and 10:35am
- Ice Skating
  Take the shuttle to Curry Village for a one-of-a-kind ice-skating experience with a spectacular view of Half Dome. Open Nov 22 through Mar 6, conditions permitting. See page 5 for hours.

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

Walking and Hiking
Yosemite Valley has a wide range of year-round walking and hiking possibilities. Stop by the visitor contact station behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for trail maps and updated weather and trail conditions. (Open 9am to 4pm.)

PROGRAMS AND GUIDED ADVENTURES
Naturalist Programs
Naturalists give regular programs about Yosemite's natural and cultural history. See page 5 for scheduled programs.

Adventure Out With Yosemite Mountaineering School
Yosemite Mountaineering School provides outdoor adventures for people of all experience levels. Give us a call to join one of our group classes or schedule a custom outing designed specifically for your group. We offer professional guides for Nordic skiers and snowshoe trips. Reservations required. Call (209) 372-8444 or email yms@aramark.com.

Yosemite Conservancy Adventures
CUSTOM YOSEMITE EXPERIENCES
Join a Yosemite Conservancy naturalist guide for a customized experience that fits your interests and schedule.

Custom Adventures: Experience the park on personalized day hikes, birding walks, stargazing programs and backpacking trips. yosemite.org/custom-adventures.

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

COVID-19 Information
Wearing a face mask is required in federal buildings regardless of vaccination status. Thank you for helping keep yourself and others safe. Check local resources, area signage, and park website for updates, www.nps.gov/yose.

How Will My Visit Be Impacted?
The COVID-19 pandemic will continue to affect park operations in 2021. Visitaton to the park will be managed in accordance with recommendations from public health officials. Visit the park website, www.nps.gov/yose for more updates and safety information.

Not Available or Modified Services this Winter
Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (VC) is closed; an outdoor visitor contact station is available behind the VC.

Many programs are canceled until further notice, see page 4 for programs schedule.

Some campgrounds are currently closed. Camp 4 is now available to first come, first served camping.

Yosemite Theater and Yosemite Museum are closed until Spring 2022.

Yosemite Valley Shuttle System will resume operations on December 17, 2021.

Select dining and shopping establishments are open and encourage social distancing.

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04 Programs and Exhibits
05 Services
07 Permit Information
08 Protecting Yourself
10 Feature Story
Back Yosemite Valley Map
Discover Yosemite
Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Walking Yosemite Valley
Destinations on the east end of Yosemite Valley are easily accessed on foot or by bike. The numbers in white circles show the average walking time between popular destinations.

Yosemite Valley Walking Map
- Average Walking Times
- Walking Routes
  - Campground
  - Parking
  - Picnic Area
  - Restroom
  - Walk-In Campground

Entrance Fees
Non-commercial car, truck, RV, or van with 15 or fewer passenger seats (No 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 62 and over.

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

Interagency Military Pass (Free)

Interagency 4th Grade Pass (Free)
Must present paper voucher.

Reservations
Campground Reservations (877) 444-6777; www.recreation.gov
Lodging Reservations (888) 413-8869; www.travelyosemite.com
Group Sales Office: (888) 339-3481
www.travelyosemite.com

Regional Info
Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) www.yarts.com
Highway 120 West Yosemite Chamber of Commerce (888) 446-9120 or (209) 962-0429
Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau (800) 446-1333; www.tcvb.com
Highway 41 Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau (209) 683-4636; www.yosemitehighway.com
Highway 132/49 Coulterville Visitor Center (209) 878-3329
Highway 140/49 California Welcome Center, Merced (888) 446-5353 or (209) 724-8104 www.yosemite-gateway.org
Mariposa County Visitor Center (866) 425-3366 or (209) 966-7081
Mariposa Mariposa County Tourism Bureau (209) 742-4567; www.yosemite.com
Highway 120 East Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center, (760) 647-6629, www.leevining.com

Yosemite Valley Map
- Glacier Point Road closed to vehicles in winter.
- Mariposa Grove Road closed to vehicles in winter.

Yosemite Area Map
- Ranger Station
- Food Service & Lodging
- Campground
- Gas Station

Experience Your America  Yosemite National Park
Yosemite Valley

Yosemite 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 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 (1½ 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 bikers, snowshoers, and skiers, and all trails in the grove remain open for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. The nearby Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with the people who came to Yosemite from all over the world to start a new life and make the park what it is today.

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 great place to hike in autumn and winter. The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles (1¾ 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, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.

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. See chain control regulations on www.nps.gov/yose for vehicles towing trailers.

R1 - All vehicles must have 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.
Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore
A visitor contact station is available behind the visitor center for information and updates from 9am to 4pm. The Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore will be operating as an outdoor “to-go” store, daily from 9am to 4:30pm.

YOSEMITE THEATER AND MUSEUM
Closed Fall and Winter of 2021

INDIAN CULTURAL VILLAGE
Walk through the reconstructed Indian Village of Ahwahnee and learn about the structures which the Ahwahneechee lived in and the plants they used for survival. View the interactive displays and see the ceremonial roundhouse, bark houses, and sweathouse members of the local tribes still continue to use. Located behind the Yosemite Museum in Yosemite Village.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS
Snowshoe Walk Explore the Forest in Winter (Begin December 18) 10am to 12pm at Badger Pass. Reservations required by 2pm the day before the snowshoe walk. No first-come first-served availability for the walk. Limited to 30 people. Reservations must be made by calling 209-379-1899. Mask required. Meet at Badger Pass Ranger Station for naturalist led tour of winter landscape. Bring warm clothing. Expect a moderately-strenuous experience. Snowshoes provided. Begins December 18. Mask required. If Badger Pass remains closed, this program will not take place.

Yosemite Conservancy
Join Yosemite Conservancy for a memorable experience in the park this winter! Advanced registration is required for all Conservancy adventures. Explore our website (yosemite.org) and follow us on social media to find the latest updates from our team, learn more about our organization, and browse our full program calendar.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS
Evening Campfire with storyteller (December 24, 6:30 pm–7:30 pm) in Yosemite Valley. Winter Hike (January 22, 9am–3pm) in Yosemite Valley. Full Moon Hike (January 17, 7pm–9pm) at Badger Pass. Dewey Point Snowshoe Walk (January 29, 8am–4pm) at Badger Pass. Or plan a Custom Adventure with one of our naturalists. Learn more and sign up: yosemite.org/adventures

The Ansel Adams Gallery
The Ansel Adams Gallery is open daily from 10am to 3pm. (Closed Christmas Day)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS
Winter Hike in Yosemite Valley (January 22, 9am-3pm) in Yosemite Valley. Dewey Point Snowshoe Trek (January 29, 8am–4pm) at Badger Pass. Full Moon Snowshoe Hike (January 29, 8am–4pm) at Badger Pass. Evening Campfire Stories (January 17, 7pm–9pm) at Badger Pass. In the Field: Creative Smartphone Photography (January 22, 9am–3pm) in Yosemite Valley. Demystifying Digital Exposure (January 29, 8am–4pm) at Badger Pass. Evening Campfire with storyteller (December 24, 6:30 pm–7:30 pm) in Yosemite Valley. Winter Hike (January 22, 9am–3pm) in Yosemite Valley. Full Moon Hike (January 17, 7pm–9pm) at Badger Pass.

BECOME A JUNIOR RANGER
Complete the activities that are the best fit for you in the above self-guided handbook, sold for $3.50 plus tax at stores throughout Yosemite National Park and online. When you are done, share your booklet with a park ranger at any Yosemite visitor center during operating hours to receive your Junior Ranger badge.

Illustration by Stefani Lacy
Yosemite Guide   December 1, 2021 - February 1, 2022

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(The Chapel)
Resident Minister: Pastor Brent Moore
209/372-4831 • www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org
Sunday Service: 9:15am
Sunday Evening: 6:30pm
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES
Tuesday, December 24 at 4:00pm and 5:30pm*
*Subject to Covid-19 policies. Please call the chapel for current information before you travel.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
(Non-denominational)
El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am
info: 209/372-2100

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
No meetings at this time
Oakhurst Hotline: 559/683-1662

Grocery Stores

YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE
Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm
CURRY VILLAGE
Gift/Grocery
10am to 6pm
Mountain Shop
8:30am to 4:30pm
WAWONA
Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop
9am to 5pm
BADGER PASS SKI AREA
Sport Shop
9am to 4pm, beginning Dec 17

Gas and Service Stations

YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE
Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm
CURRY VILLAGE
Gift/Grocery
10am to 6pm
Mountain Shop
8:30am to 4:30pm
WAWONA
Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop
9am to 5pm
BADGER PASS SKI AREA
Sport Shop
9am to 4pm, beginning Dec 17

Winter Recreation

BADGER PASS SKI AREA
Opens Dec 17, conditions permitting
Lift Operation: 9am to 4pm
Tour Tickets: 8:30am to 4pm
Tubing: 10am to 11am, 11:30am to 1:30pm, and 2pm to 4pm
Nordic Shop Rentals: 8:30am to 4:30pm
Alpine Rentals: 8:30am to 4:30pm

CURRY VILLAGE
Ice skating
Opens Nov 22, conditions permitting
Monday-Friday: 3:30pm - 6:00pm & 7:00pm - 9:30pm
Saturday/Sunday: 2:00pm - 4:00pm, 7:00pm - 9:30pm
Holidays: 8:30am - 11:00am, 12:00pm - 2:30pm, 3:30 - 6:00pm & 7:00pm - 9:30pm

GLACIER POINT
Ski Hut
Closed for the season

Other Services

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

Books, Gifts and Apparel

YOSEMITE VILLAGE
Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore
at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
9am to 4:30pm
The Ansel Adams Gallery
9am to 5:30pm, Closed Dec 25
Village Store
8am to 8pm
THE AHWAHNEE
Gift Shop
9am to 8pm
Sweet Shop
8am to 9pm
Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

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.

WINTER TRAILS PREPAREDNESS
Ski or snowshoe touring in Yosemite can be a magnificent experience with proper preparation. See page 8 for tips on how to protect yourself while adventuring in Yosemite.

TRAILS IN WAWONA AREA
Yosemite History Center
Go back to a time of horse-drawn wagons, a covered bridge, and log cabins. A visit to the Yosemite History Center will highlight how Yosemite was the inspiration for national parks across America and around the world. The Center is always open and informational signs are found in front of each historic building.

Mariposa Grove
Located near Yosemite’s South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is the park’s largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees in the grove. While the Mariposa Grove Road closes to cars from the end of November until at least March 15, the road to the grove and all trails in the grove remain open to hikers, snowshoers, and skiers. Wilderness permits are required for camping. There is no water in the grove.

TRAILS IN CRANE FLAT AREA
Tuolumne Grove
The trailhead for this grove of about 25 sequoias is near the intersection of the Big Oak Flat Road and Tioga Road at Crane Flat. This is a popular trail both with snowshoers and hikers and is an arduous return ski. The trail leads downhill from the parking area into the grove. The trail drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the uphill return to the parking lot. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. There is no potable water at the parking area or in the grove. Bring drinking water with you.

Merced Grove
Yosemite’s quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of approximately 20 big trees accessible only on foot. The first half mile is level and easy, a good warm-up for the steep 1 mile (1.6 km) descent into the grove. This trail requires heavy snowfall from a cold, lower-elevation storm to be skiable. There is no potable water at the parking area or in the grove. 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.

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></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Across from Yosemite Valley Lodge</td>
<td>1.0 miles round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock</td>
<td>Camp 4, across from Yosemite Valley Lodge</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 2–3 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Upper Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7.2 miles round-trip, 6–8 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 2,700-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror Lake (A seasonal lake)</td>
<td>East of North Pines Campground</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernal Fall Footbridge</td>
<td>Happy Isles</td>
<td>1.4 miles round-trip, 1–2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate, 400-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Vernal Fall</td>
<td>Happy Isles</td>
<td>3 miles round-trip, 2–4 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>Happy Isles</td>
<td>5 miles round-trip, 5–6 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,300-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point</td>
<td>Southside Drive</td>
<td>4.8 miles one-way, 3–4 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 2,100-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Floor Loop</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Trailhead</td>
<td>12 miles full loop, 5–7 hours full loop</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wilderness Permits

Wilderness permits are required year-round for all overnight trips into Yosemite's 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 (conditions permitting). Bear canisters are only available for rent at the Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore located at the Valley Visitor Center. The process for reserving wilderness permits in advance has changed for the 2022 season. Permit reservation requests can be made at www.recreation.gov/permits/445859, 24 weeks to 7 days in advance. The 60% reservable quota for each trailhead first becomes available during a weekly lottery 24 weeks in advance. Any of the 60% that are not confirmed during the lottery will be released for advanced reservations, up to 7 days in advance. For every permit lottery application and advanced reservation there is a non-refundable $10 permit fee. For each confirmed permit, there is an additional non-refundable $5 per person fee. To reach the Wilderness Reservation staff, use www.yosemite.org/contact-us (preferred) at any time or call 209-372-0740, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. For more information, visit: www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking, www.yosemite.org, and the Leave No Trace website at www.lnt.org.

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 120.

GLACIER POINT

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

HETCH HETCHY

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

Half Dome Permits

The Half Dome Cables are down for the season. They will be put back up May 27, 2022. Conditions permitting, Permits are required 7 days a week when the cables are up. The pre-season lottery application period for the 2022 use permits begins March 1, 2022 and ends March 31, 2022. To apply for permits visit www.recreation.gov/permits/234652 or call 877/444-6777. More information about the Half Dome permit process is available at: nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm. The process for hiking Half Dome as part of a wilderness trip has also changed for 2022. Please visit nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm to learn about the new process.

Camping Reservations

For the 2021 winter season, campgrounds that will be open are a portion each of Upper Pines and Camp 4. Upper Pines requires reservations which are available up to five months in advance and are released on the 15th of each month at 7 am Pacific time.

Camp 4 is first come, first served, and campers must self-register. For campground reservations, visit www.recreation.gov (recommended) or call 877/444-6777 or TDD 877/833-6777 or 518/885-3639 from outside the US and Canada.

Sleeping in vehicles and frontcountry camping are only permitted.

General Camping Information

Services

- All sites include picnic tables, firepits with grills, and a food locker. See page 9 for food storage regulations.
- Shower and laundry facilities are not available during the 2021 season.
- There are no hookups in Yosemite campgrounds, but there are sanitary dump stations in Yosemite Valley (all year), and summer only in Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows.

Regulations

- Proper food storage is required 24 hours a day.
- A maximum of six people (including children) and two vehicles are allowed per campsite.
- Quiet hours are from 10pm to 6am.
- Where permitted, pets must be on a leash and may not be left unattended.
- Firewood collection of dead and down wood is permitted within the boundaries of campgrounds in Yosemite Valley, and can otherwise be gathered anywhere in the park that is outside Yosemite Valley, below 9,600 ft, and not in a sequoia grove.

Zero Landfill Initiative: Propane Canisters

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

1. Purchase a canister.
2. Use up the fuel.
3. Bring the canister back to any store that participates in the Little Kamper propane exchange program (which uses green Flameking 1 lb. tanks).
4. Trade in your empty canister for a full one at a lower price.

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

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

Keep yourself safe while exploring your park

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

A SEASON OF TRANSITION
What will Yosemite's weather be like this time of year? No one really knows! This is a season of transition so you can experience several weather extremes in just 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. Also, 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 always be prepared for all extremes. Dress in layers so that 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.

YOSEMITE'S ROADS
Weather is unpredictable and can change rather quickly, possibly affecting Park roads. Plan for all potential road conditions; call ahead to 209/372-0200 for current road conditions and restrictions. Be aware of changing conditions and icy roads, especially in shadowed areas. 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. Obey trail signage. Check weather and current conditions at the visitor center before your trip. Trails can be icy or wet—use trekking poles, crampons, or other footwear traction devices can help with preventing a serious fall.

FOR ALL SEASONS
• Always leave travel and hiking plans with a trusted person, including intended routes and estimated time of return.
• Stay on established trails.
• River, streams and lakes can be hazardous all year. Maintain awareness. Crossing water should only be attempted where it is safe.
• Stay hydrated and snack frequently, despite season! If you are sweating, replace lost salts with salty, easy-to-digest snacks.
• Take hiking essentials—including sunglasses, sunscreen, and a 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.

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

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

Do not bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container.
• If camping or backpacking, do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings. For more information visit: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm.

Protecting yourself...
FOOD STORAGE
You may store food in your car (with windows closed) only during specified hours. Bury human waste in a hole at least 6 inches (15 centimeters) deep and at least 200 feet (60 meters) from streams and lakes.

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

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

IF YOU SEE A BEAR...
...scan it away or keep your distance. You may not see the 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 busses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will be causing the bear to become used to being around people. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed. Report bear sightings and incidents to the Save-A-Bear hotline (209)372-0322 or by emailing yose_bear_mgmt@nps.gov. For more information about bears in Yosemite please visit www.keepbearswild.org.

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

LOCATION
FOOD STORAGE
WHY?
Your Vehicle
You may store food in your car (both windows closed) only during daylight hours. Do not store food in your car after dark: use a food locker. Remember to clear your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats.
Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles.
Your Campsite or Tent Cabin
Hymenoptera (bees, ants, and wasps) live in your tent or tent cabin. A food locker is available at each campsite and tent cabin. Food may be stored out of sight in hard-sided RVs with windows closed.
Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert.
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. Arm yourself with a signal spray or pepper spray. If you see any of the following illegal acts: operating an unmanned aircraft system ("drone"), possessing or using marijuana, hunting animals, operating an unmanned aircraft system ("drone"), possessing or using marijuana, including medical marijuana, or using metal detectors, please call 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.

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.

Clean water is a precious resource for all living beings -
You can protect these waters and this pristine watershed which supplies drinking water for 2.7 million people.

- Protect fragile plants and soils: Trampling vegetation and compacting soils affects the movement and cleanliness of water.
- Walk and camp on durable surfaces: Use established trails, campsites, rock, and gravel to minimize your impact. Walk single file and keep groups small.
- Pack it in, pack it out: Pack out toilet paper, hygiene products, leftover food, trash, and litter from campsites, rest areas, and trails. Leave no trace!
- Wash yourself or dishes 200 feet away from water sources.
- Use restroom facilities or bury human waste. Bury human waste in a hole at least 6 inches (15 centimeters) deep and at least 200 feet (60 meters) from streams and lakes.

Yosemite Guardians
Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park's most important guardians. During your visit, be aware that there are people who either unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:
- Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Collecting plants
- Hunting animals
- Collecting reptiles and butterflies
- Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Biking off of paved roads
- Camping outside of designated campsgrounds
- 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 horsepower) are allowed everywhere bicycles are allowed and must adhere to a 15mph speed limit.

FISHING
Stream and river fishing in Tuolumne Meadows and Yosemite Valley to Parkline (Merced River) is open through November 15. You must have a valid California Fishing License with you. All lakes and reservoirs are open to fishing year-round.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm.
For years, many have associated Yosemite in the winter with magic: a wonderland of soft blankets of snow, sparkling alpine glow on frozen mountain faces, and crisp starry skies decorated with wide-eyed constellations. One cannot help but feel enveloped in a sense of awe and wonder when observing it all.

Winter also brings many changes to the park: busy trails transition into quiet snowshoe havens, and the backcountry is a wild and seemingly untouched playground in the winter for those who crave adventure.

Historically winter in Yosemite has showcased a rich variety of cold weather activities. The winter season brought hockey tournaments, Olympic speed skating trials, curling, downhill ski races, dogsledding, ski touring behind horses, and tobogganing. Donald Tresidder, the first president of the Yosemite Park and Curry Company, even put in a bid for the 1932 Winter Olympics to be hosted in Yosemite National Park. Thankfully Lake Placid New York was chosen as the site.

Imagine how drastically the Olympic Games could have changed the landscape of Yosemite. Lake Placid was chosen because the International Olympic Committee said it had a “more predictable snowfall.” However, it must be noted that during the year of the 1932 Olympics, Lake Placid had record low snowfall, while Yosemite had record high snowfall!

Not only has the park hosted a myriad of winter activities over the years, but it was also home to the first ski school west of the Mississippi. Donald Tresidder established the Yosemite ski school during the winter of 1928, and it was run by top Swiss instructor Jules Fritsch. He, along with Gordon Hooley, Wolf Greeven, and Ralph de Pfyffer were some of the first ski instructors in Yosemite. It was common for them to lead overnight backcountry ski trips with park visitors to Snow Flat and Mount Dana, often using backcountry ranger cabins for overnight accommodations.

Yosemite is not only known for having the first ski school in the West, but its historic Badger Pass was also the first ski resort established in California. While Yosemite’s ski area is shy in size, it has fostered a deep love for winter activities since 1935. Generations upon generations of families come to the ski area every year to learn and play.

Here in Yosemite, it feels as though the seasons change at the perfect time: after busy hot summers, human hearts long for the cold and crisp winters. As the end of winter draws near, one cannot help but crave the cusp of long dark nights to elongated warm summer days.

Though Sierra winters bring many changes to the park, Yosemite continues to offer itself to everyone. Whether one prefers to bask in the beauty of a snow covered Valley, embark on wild backcountry adventures, learn to fly down peaks on skis and snowboards, or share stories in the warmth of good company, winter in Yosemite ignites a sense of awe and wonder.

Images: top left, Badger Pass Ski Area, 1936, NP Gallery; top right, Joe Sovulewski 1934, RL 007848; center bottom, Half Dome in early a.m., RL 006341
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.yosemitedpartners.org to learn more about helping these organizations provide for the future of Yosemite National Park.

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

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

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

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

Contact Us
Yosemite National Park
PO Box 577
9039 Village Drive
Yosemite, CA 95389
(209) 372-0200
http://www.nps.gov/yose/contacts.htm

The Ansel Adams Gallery
PO Box 455
Yosemite, CA 95389
(209) 372-4413
(209) 372-4714 fax
www.anseladams.com

Yosemite Hospitality L.L.C.
PO Box 306
Yosemite, CA 95389
(888) 413-8869
www.travelyosemite.com

Yosemite Conservancy
101 Montgomery Street,
Suite 1700
San Francisco, CA 94104
(415) 329-2374 fax
www.yosemite.org

NatureBridge
PO Box 487
Yosemite, CA 95389
(209) 379-9511
(209) 379-9510 fax
www.nmi.org

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

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

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

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