## ? Yosemite Essentials



A peak-hours reservation is required to drive into Yosemite on some dates in 2024.

## A reservation is required between 5 am and 4 pm on the following dates:

April 13 to June 30 Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays only

July 1 to August 16 Daily

August 17 to October 27 Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays only

## **Visitors may enter** the park with:

- a peak-hours reservation
- a Wilderness or Half Dome permit
- in-park camping, lodging, or vacation rental
- regional transit or a tour group

## To learn more, scan the QR code or visit go.nps.gov/reserve.

#### Book a reservation at Recreation.gov.

A portion of reservations were released in January 2024; additional reservations are released seven days in advance at 8 am Pacific time. Reservations are valid for up to three consecutive days.





## **Spring in Yosemite: What to Expect**

Large areas of the park are still covered in snow. The best places to hike in spring are Yosemite Valley, Wawona, and Hetch Hetchy. Ask a ranger about trail conditions before you go.

**Expect seasonal road closures.** Tioga Road and Glacier Point Road close to vehicles each winter and may not open until May—or later. Tire chains may still be needed in early spring. Call 209/372-0200 (press 1, then 1) to hear about current road conditions and closures.

Waterfalls, rivers, and streams are at their most powerful. Use extreme caution around any flowing water. Do not enter water above waterfalls. Stay off of slick rocks, especially at the base of waterfalls.

## **Visitor & Emergency** Services

In an Emergency: Call or Text 911

Non-emergency dispatch line 209/379-1992

**Medical Clinic (Yosemite Valley)** 209/372-4637

Open Mon to Fri from 9 am to 5 pm. Urgent care walk-ins from 1 pm to 3:30 pm with out-ofpocket fees.

**Yosemite Village Garage** 209/372-1060 24-hour roadside assistance.

Lost & Found Check at the nearest open information center or hotel front desk, or visit go.nps.gov/lost to report a lost item.

## **Accessibility**

For a complete list of accessible services, exhibits, and recreational opportunities, pick up a Yosemite Accessibility Guide at visitor centers, or download a digital copy at go.nps.gov/AccessYosemite

Sign Language interpreting is available upon request. Contact Deaf Services at 209/379-5250 (v/txt). Two weeks advance notice is requested but not required.

**Assistive Listening Devices** are available upon advance request at any visitor center.

Accessible parking spaces are available throughout the park.

## **R** Protect Yosemite's Wildlife

Bears and other animals are active in the park year-round!

**Speeding kills bears.** You're driving through wildlife habitat. Follow speed limits, drive carefully, and watch for wildlife crossing the road.

It is illegal to approach or feed any wild animal in Yosemite. Wildlife can cause injuries and transmit diseases. Human food is very unhealthy for wild animals, and animals that are used to being fed can become aggressive toward people.



DISTANCE FROM WILDLIFE: 30 feet = about one bus-length.

## **▶** Proper Food Storage is Required by Law

Help keep wildlife wild. Never intentionally feed any wild animal in Yosemite. Avoid accidentally sharing your food by properly storing it.



If you see a bear in the park, email yose\_bear\_mgmt@nps.gov or call the Save-a-Bear hotline at 209/372-0322. To learn more about food storage and bears, visit KeepBearsWild.org.

## **During the Day**

While hiking or picnicking, always keep your food within arm's reach. When you are away from your vehicle, keep all windows closed and any food or coolers hidden from sight. Never leave food in a truck bed or strapped to the outside of a vehicle.

### At Night

Bears can easily break into vehicles in search of food. Food, trash, and other scented items may **NOT** be stored inside vehicles overnight. These items must be kept inside a food locker, in an allowed bear resistant container, or in a hotel room or cabin. Food may also be stored inside a completely hard-sided RV with all windows and vents closed.

## Park Regulations

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. Regulations are in place to protect both visitors and park resources.

## **Prohibited activities include:**

Using drones

Feeding or approaching wildlife Collecting plants and animals Hunting animals

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

To report illegal activity, call park dispatch at 209/379-1992.



## Pets are not allowed on hiking trails.

Pets are only permitted on paved walking and biking paths, in most campgrounds, and in parking areas. Pets must be leashed at all times.

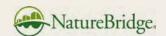
Service dogs are allowed anywhere that visitors can go. Emotional support, therapy, and companion animals are subject to pet regulations.

## **Park Partners**



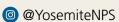




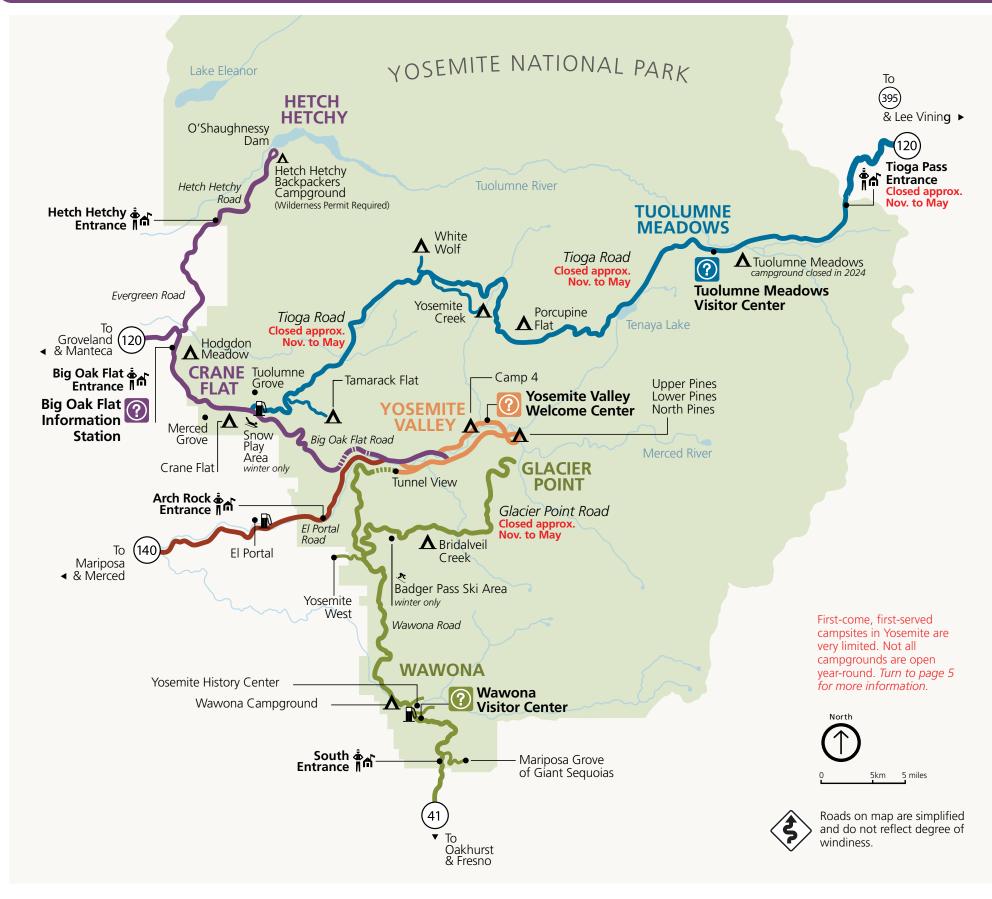








# \* Park Map



**NOTE**: There are only 2 gas stations inside the park and **NO GAS** in Yosemite Valley.











Visitor Information Center

## Where to Find More Information

## **Information Centers**

Start your visit here! Pick up trail maps, become a junior ranger, get help planning your trip, and ask about closures and trail conditions.



### **Yosemite Valley Welcome Center** 9 am to 5 pm

The welcome center is the Valley's NEW hub for visitor information. The former visitor center is now the Yosemite Exploration Center, offering rotating exhibits, a theater, and the Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore. Both are located in Yosemite Village, near shuttle stops 1, 2, 4, & 5.



Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio Closed for the Season



**Big Oak Flat Information Station** Closed for the Season



**Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center** Closed for the Season

## **Look up Current Conditions**

Tioga Road and Glacier Point Road close each winter and may not open until May—or later. Spring snowstorms may cause short-term closures or chain restrictions on roads.

For the most current road conditions, including short-term closures and tire chain restrictions, call **209/372-0200** (press 1, then 1.)

For planned or long-term closures to park roads, trails, and facilities, scan the QR code or visit go.nps.gov/conditions.





## **Get the Official NPS App**

The free app features over 400 parks across the US! Search for trails and other things to do, navigate with the park map, view the program calendar, and find your next park. Download Yosemite ahead of time to access park information when you're offline.

Download from your device's app store: search "National Park Service".

## **Planning Your Yosemite Adventure**



### **YOSEMITE VALLEY**

The first stop for many park visitors, Yosemite Valley is known for its towering granite walls and iconic features like El Capitan and Half Dome. The Valley's many waterfalls roar in spring, usually peaking in May.

Start your visit at the new welcome center in Yosemite Village for trail maps and park information. Then stop by the Yosemite Museum and the new Exploration Center for exhibits and cultural demonstrations. Turn to

Check out a variety of talks, guided walks, and art and photography classes. Turn to page 8 for a schedule of programs.



## **WAWONA & THE MARIPOSA GROVE**

The Mariposa Grove is home to over 500 mature giant sequoias and miles of trails. Shuttle service from the parking area to the Grove may begin as early as April 1, if conditions allow. Shuttles operate 8 am to 7 pm. When there is no shuttle, the Grove is accessible only via a 2-mile hike (each way.) Stop in Wawona for more trails, visitor services, and the Yosemite History Center (open daily.) Expect to find snow and ice on trails in early

**Distance from Yosemite Valley** 30 mi/48 km (1 hour)

**Directions** From Yosemite Valley, take Wawona Road (Hwy 41). Watch for signs for the Mariposa Grove just before the park's South Entrance. **Road Conditions** Wawona Road remains open year-round.



## **GLACIER POINT & BADGER PASS SKI AREA**

Glacier Point Road is closed to vehicles from approx. November to

Call 209/372-0200 (1,1) to check the current status of park roads.

Badger Pass Ski Area is typically open until late March, if conditions allow. For more information, visit TravelYosemite.com.



## **CRANE FLAT**

Visit two giant sequoia groves north of Yosemite Valley that are smaller and quieter than the Mariposa Grove. Hike one mile down to the Tuolumne Grove, or 1.5 miles down to the Merced Grove. Parking at each trailhead is extremely limited. Expect to find snow and ice on trails

Distance from Yosemite Valley 16 mi/26 km (30 minutes)

**Directions** From Yosemite Valley, take Big Oak Flat Road (continuation of Hwy 120) to Tioga Road Junction at Crane Flat.

**Road Conditions** Big Oak Flat Road is open year-round.



## **HETCH HETCHY**

A source of water and hydroelectric power for San Francisco, Hetch Hetchy is also home to spectacular scenery. From here, visitors can walk across the dam, hike along the reservoir, or access Yosemite's Wilderness.

**Distance from Yosemite Valley** 40 mi/64 km (1½ hours)

**Directions** From Yosemite Valley, take Big Oak Flat Road (Hwy 120 W.) Just outside the Big Oak Flat Entrance, turn right on Evergreen Road.

**Road Conditions** The road is open daily from sunrise to sunset. Vehicles and trailers over 25 ft long and 8 ft wide are not permitted on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.

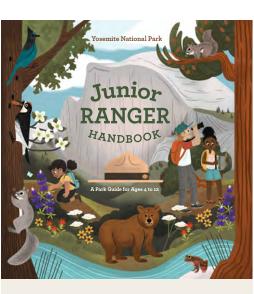


## **TIOGA ROAD & TUOLUMNE MEADOWS**

Tioga Road is closed to vehicles from approx. November to May.

Call 209/372-0200 (1,1) to check the current status of park roads.

When Tioga Road and the Tioga Pass Entrance are closed, there is no access to Yosemite from the east. Other park entrances remain open



## **Become a Junior Ranger!**

Kids (and kids-at-heart) can pick up a free Junior Ranger Handbook at any open information center. Complete the activities while you explore the park, and earn your junior ranger badge!

## **Ranger Recommendations**

Spring is a time of transition. Warmer weather arrives in Yosemite Valley first, while higherelevation areas of the park can remain covered in snow until late spring or early summer. Waterfalls are at their peak in spring, when snow in the high country begins to melt. Rivers and streams are also at their most dangerous, so use extra caution around any flowing water.

## If you're visiting for a day or

As you travel through the valley, stop at Tunnel View, Bridalveil Fall, El Capitan Meadow, or Valley View for scenic viewpoints.

Stop by the Yosemite Valley Welcome Center for maps and park information, then check out the Yosemite Exploration Center and Theater for exhibits and the park film. Learn more about the park's cultural connections next door at the Yosemite Museum.

Take a scenic stroll around Cook's Meadow and Lower Yosemite Fal

If time allows, walk to Mirror Lake or take a short hike to the Vernal Fall Footbridge on the Mist Trail. Turn to page 11 for trail information.

### If you're visiting for multiple days:

Attend a tour, talk, class, or guided walk. Turn to page 8 for a schedule of programs and classes.

If conditions are good, explore some longer trails in Yosemite Valley. Turn to page 11 for trail information.

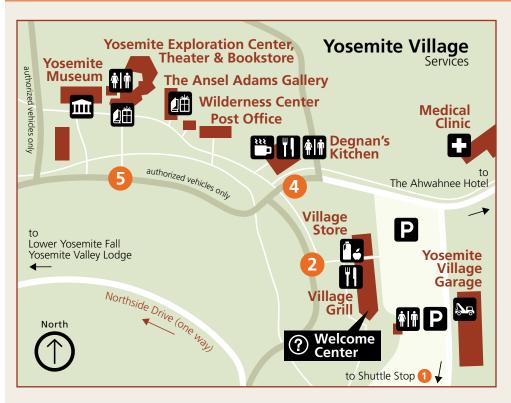
Spend a day exploring trails in the Mariposa Grove and Wawona.

If time allows, spend a day at Hetch Hetchy and hike along the reservoir to Wapama Falls.

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park Yosemite Guide March 20 – May 7, 2024

## **TI Services**

#### **YOSEMITE VALLEY YOSEMITE VALLEY**



## (?) INFORMATION & EXHIBITS

**Yosemite Valley Welcome Center** 9 am – 5 pm Yosemite Village; shuttle stops 1/2/4/5

**Yosemite Exploration Center & Theater** 9 am – 5 pm

Theater closed Apr 8, Apr 22, & May 6 Yosemite Village; shuttle stops 1/2/4/5

Yosemite Museum 10 am – 4 pm

Yosemite Village; shuttle stops 1/2/4/5.

Wilderness Center Closed for the season. Happy Isles Art & Nature Center (Opens Apr 7)

9 am – 4 pm. Shuttle stop 16.

**Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (Opens May 1)** 

Wed – Sun, 10 am – 4 pm. Shuttle stop 12.

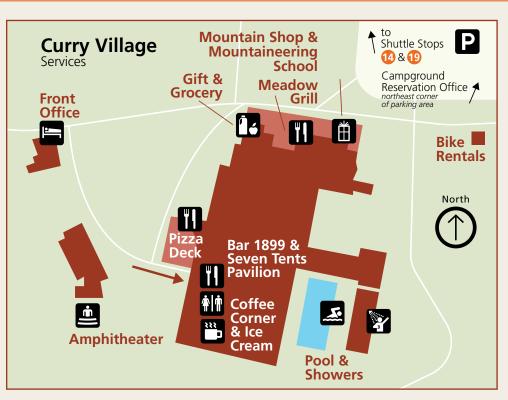
## **5** BIKE RENTALS

Seasonal opening dates subject to change, depending on conditions.

**Yosemite Valley Lodge Bike Stand (Opens Mar 25)** 7:30 am – 3:30 pm

Curry Village Bike Stand (Opens Mar 25) 7:30 am – 3:30 pm

**Yosemite Village Bike Stand (Opens Mar 25)** 7:30 am – 3:30 pm



## ☆ ★ TOURS & ACTIVITIES

**Yosemite Valley Lodge Tour & Activity Desk** See the front desk at the Lodge, open 24 hours. Book tours & activities at TravelYosemite.com.

Curry Village Tour & Activity Kiosk (Opens Mar 25) 7:30 am – 3:30 pm Book tours & activities at TravelYosemite.com.

Village Store Tour & Activity Kiosk Closed for the season. Book tours & activities at TravelYosemite.com.

**Mountaineering School (Curry Village)** 8:30 am – 12 pm, 1 pm – 4:30 pm. Guided hiking & rock climbing experiences. Shuttle stops 14 & 19.

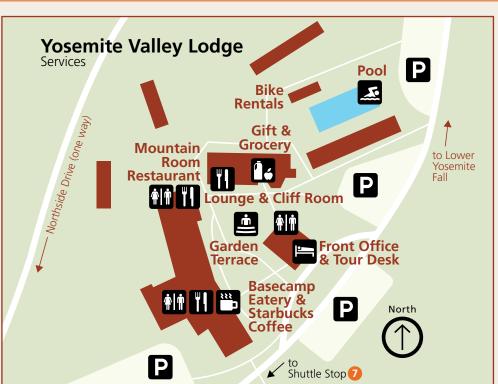
## **OTHER SERVICES**

Laundry (Housekeeping Camp) 8 am – 10 pm. Shuttle stop 12.

Showers (Curry Village) 24 hrs. Shuttle stops 14 & 19.

**Yosemite Village Post Office** Mon – Fri: 8:30 am – 5 pm, Sat: 10 am – 12 pm. Shuttle stops 1/2/4/5.

**Yosemite Village Garage** 8 am to 12 pm, 1 pm to 5 pm Propane available during regular operating hours. 24-hour roadside assistance: call 209/372-1060. No gas available in Yosemite Valley.



## 🏥 🚹 GIFTS, GEAR, & GROCERIES

**YOSEMITE VILLAGE** shuttle stops 1/2/4/5

**The Ansel Adams Gallery** 10 am – 4 pm (9 am to 5 pm starting Apr 1)

**Yosemite Conservancy Store at Welcome Center** 9 am – 5 pm

**Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore at Exploration Center** 9 am – 5 pm

Yosemite Museum Store 10 am – 4 pm, closed for lunch

Village Store 8 am – 9 pm, open until 10 pm starting April 19

THE AHWAHNEE shuttle stop 3

Gift Shop 8 am – 9 pm

Sweet Shop 7 am – 10 pm

**YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE** shuttle stop 7

Gift Shop 8 am - 10 pm

**CURRY VILLAGE** shuttle stops 14 & 19

**Yosemite Mountain Shop** 8 am – 8 pm. *Hiking, camping, climbing gear.* 

Curry Village Gift & Grocery 8 am – 10 pm

**HOUSEKEEPING CAMP** shuttle stop 12

Grocery (Opens Apr 5) 8 am - 8 pm

## **■ FOOD & BEVERAGE**

**YOSEMITE VILLAGE** shuttle stops 1/2/4/5

**Degnan's Kitchen** Breakfast: 7 am – 11 am, Lunch: 11:30 am – 6 pm Coffee, deli sandwiches, & grab-and-go items. Indoor & outdoor seating.

Village Grill (Tentative opening March 25) 11 am – 6 pm.

**CURRY VILLAGE** shuttle stops 14 & 19

**Seven Tents Pavilion** Breakfast: 7 am – 10 am, Dinner: 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Casual dining with rotating menu of hearty meals. Indoor seating.

**Peet's Coffee Corner** 6 am – 2 pm

**Bar 1899** 11:30 am – 10 pm. *Beer on tap, cocktails, & light bites.* 

**Pizza Deck** 11 am – 10 pm. *Pizza whole or by the slice. Outdoor seating.* 

Meadow Grill (Opens Apr 12) 11:30 am – 5:30 pm. Tacos. Outdoor seating.

Jennie's Ice Cream Closed for the season.

THE AHWAHNEE shuttle stop 3

Coffee Bar 7 am – 10 am

**The Ahwahnee Bar** 11:30 am – 9 pm. Beer on tap, cocktails, & light bites.

**Ahwahnee Dining Room** Breakfast: 7 am – 10 am, Dinner: 5:30 pm – 9 pm. Fine dining. Appropriate attire respectfully required for dinner. Dinner reservations strongly recommended: 209/372-1489 or OpenTable.com.

**YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE** shuttle stop 7

**Base Camp Eatery** Breakfast: 6:30 am – 10:45 am, Lunch & Dinner: 11 am – 9 pm. Fast casual burgers, pizza, & more. Indoor & outdoor seating.

Starbucks Coffee 6:30 am – 6:30 pm

**Mountain Room Lounge** Mon – Fri: 4:30 pm – 10 pm, Sat & Sun: 12 pm – 10 pm. Beer on tap, cocktails, & light bites.

**Mountain Room Restaurant** 5 pm – 10 pm

Upscale casual steakhouse. Reservations recommended: OpenTable.com.

## **RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

**Yosemite Community Church** *Pastor Brent Moore, Resident Minister.* Call 209/372-4831 or visit YosemiteValleyChapel.org for information. Weekly chapel services: Sundays at 9:15 am

**Easter week services:** Maunday (March 28) chapel service at 7pm Good Friday (March 29) chapel service at 12 pm & 7 pm Easter Sunday (March 31): 7 am sunrise service at Lower Pines Campground + 9:15 am & 11 am chapel services

Marriage Renewal Sunday (May 5 only): 9:15 am & 11 am

## **WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE**

## ? INFORMATION & EXHIBITS

Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio Closed for the season.

Yosemite History Center Open daily.

## **■ FOOD & BEVERAGE**

## Wawona Hotel Dining Room (Opens March 22)

Breakfast: 7 am – 10 am, Lunch: 11 am – 3 pm, Dinner: 5 pm – 9 pm, Lounge Service: 5 pm – 9:30 pm

## **OTHER SERVICES**

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop 8 am – 7 pm

**Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore at Wawona Visitor Center** (Opens April 27) 9 am – 5 pm

Yosemite Conservancy Depot at Mariposa Grove Welcome Plaza **(Opens April 6)** 9 am – 5 pm

Golf Course Closed for the season.

**Golf Shop & Snack Stand** Closed for the season.

Tennis Courts (Opens March 22) 8 am – dusk

**Stable** Closed for the season.

**Wawona Post Office** Mon – Fri: 9 am – 1 pm, Sat: 9 am – 12 pm

**Wawona Service Station** staffed 9 am – 6 pm. 24-hour pay-at-the-pump with card. Propane available during staffed hours only.

## **GLACIER POINT & BADGER PASS**

All services closed for the season.

## **TIOGA ROAD**

All services closed for the season.

## CKANE FLAI

Big Oak Flat Information Station Closed for the season.

Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore at Big Oak Flat Information Station Open Fri – Tues, 9 am – 5 pm

**Crane Flat Gas & Grocery** Store closed for the season. Gas available. 24-hour pay-at-the-pump with card.

## **EL PORTAL**

**El Portal Market** 9 am – 5 pm

**El Portal Service Station** staffed 8 am – 5 pm. 24-hour pay-at-the-pump with card.

## **Rehabilitation of The Ahwahnee**



After more than 95 years in service, The Ahwahnee is continuing a multi-phase comprehensive rehabilitation plan to preserve the hotel's historic integrity, while

bringing the building to code with modern fire and seismic safety standards. Scaffolding and construction noise may be present during parts of the rehabilitation project.

Due to these historic projects, Ahwahnee parking lot space has been reduced. Parking is valet only with a \$30 nightly charge, \$15 day-use or \$10 with validation. This change will only be during this historic project and will return to normal upon completion.

National Park Service and Yosemite

Hospitality are working together to

## **Zero Landfill Initiative: Propane Canisters**

Exciting news, campers: you can now buy and exchange Little Kamper 1 lb. propane canisters in Yosemite stores, including the Village Store, Curry Village Gift Shop, Mountain Shop, Wawona Store, and El Portal Market. In alliance with the Zero Landfill

reduce improper disposal of singleuse propane canisters and send less waste to our local landfill. This project was made possible in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation through the generous support of Subaru of America. Initiative, Yosemite Conservancy, the

## **∧** ⊨ CAMPING & LODGING

**CAMPING** 

A reservation is required for all campgrounds starting April 13. Visit go.nps.gov/campground for reservation booking windows and other campground details. Book a reservation at Recreation.gov.

**Campgrounds in Yosemite Valley** Opening dates are subject to change.

Upper Pines Open year-round. By reservation only

Lower Pines Opens April 23. By reservation only.

North Pines Opens April 16. By reservation only. Camp 4 Open year-round. By reservation only starting April 13. Shared walk-in sites, no RVs or pets.

## **Other Yosemite Campgrounds**

Hodgdon Meadow Open year-round. By reservation only starting April 13.

Wawona Open year-round. By reservation only starting April 13.

Sleeping inside a vehicle is only allowed at a registered campsite. Sleeping overnight in a parking lot or on the side of the road is **NOT** permitted.

Lodging inside the park is operated by Yosemite Hospitality. Reservations may be made up to one year in advance and are strongly recommended. Book a stay online at www.TravelYosemite.com or by calling 888/413-8869.

# **■** Shuttles in Yosemite Valley



The FREE Yosemite Valley shuttles operate from 7 am to 10 pm daily and service stops in numerical order.



## **Valleywide Shuttle**

Services **ALL** stops.

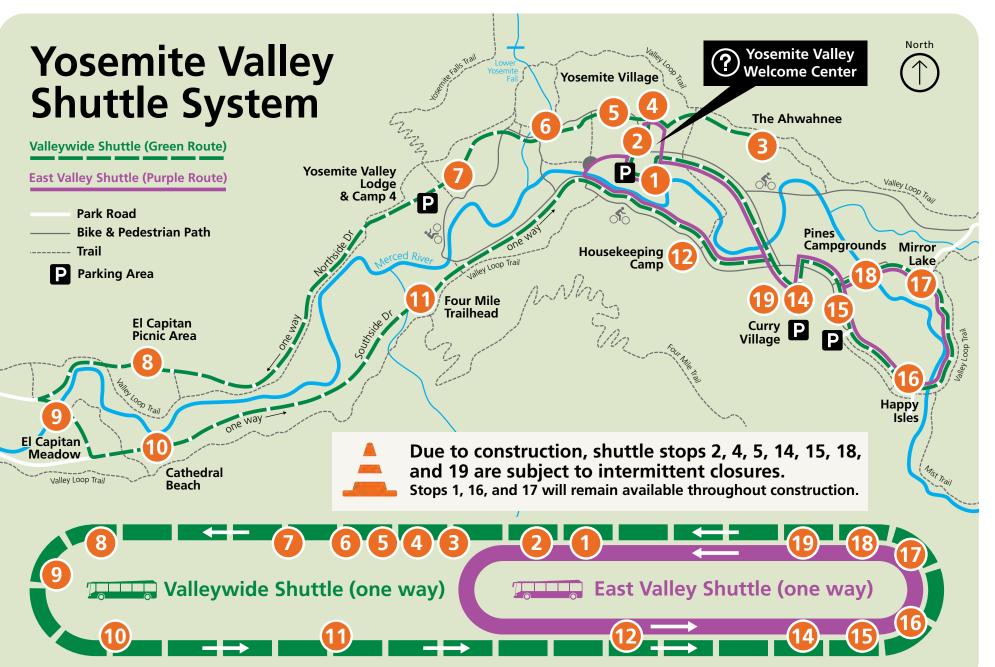
Runs approximately every 22 to 32 minutes with a total round-trip time of 1 hour and 30 minutes.



## **East Valley Shuttle**

Services **SELECT** stops.

Runs approximately every 18 to 22 minutes with a total round-trip time of 50 minutes.



## **Getting to & Around Yosemite**

- In Yosemite Valley, park in one of three central parking areas (Curry Village, Yosemite Village, and Yosemite Falls.) Shuttle, bicycle, or walk to your destination.
- Expect delays and full shuttles on holidays and busy weekends. Some destinations may be reached more quickly by walking.
- Bring or rent a bicycle to enjoy the Valley's many miles of bike paths.
- Bring plenty of food and water for potential delays. Stop and use restrooms when available.
- To avoid crowds and congestion, arrive early, stay late, and visit Yosemite during the week.
- Ride a YARTS bus to the park.
- Gas is not available in Yosemite Valley. Stations are available in El Portal, Wawona, and Crane Flat. Turn to pages 4 & 5 for details.
- During winter, check for road closures and tire chain restrictions by calling 209/372-0200 (press 1, then 1.)



## **YARTS**

The Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) is a public transit system that provides service into Yosemite National Park.

Buses are air-conditioned, bike friendly, wheelchair accessible, and equipped for rider comfort. Save gas, save time, save money, by taking

> For bus schedules and tickets, visit www.YARTS.com or call 877/989-2787.

## **Shuttle Stops in Yosemite Valley**

Turn to page 4 for information about visitor services, including shopping and dining. Turn to page 10 for information about hiking in Yosemite. Due to construction, shuttle stops 2, 4, 5, 14, 15, 18, and 19 are subject to intermittent closures. Stops 1, 16, and 17 will remain available.





## **Yosemite Village Parking**

All Shuttles

Parking, Yosemite Welcome Center, Village Store, Yosemite Exploration Center & Bookstore, Theater, Wilderness Center, Yosemite Museum, The Ansel Adams Gallery, post office, & fast casual dining.







Village Store & **Welcome Center** 

Parking, Yosemite Welcome Center, Village Store, Yosemite Exploration Center & Bookstore, Theater, Wilderness Center, Yosemite Museum, The Ansel Adams Gallery, post office, & fast casual dining.





The Ahwahnee

Valleywide Shuttle (Green Route) ONLY Lodging, casual & fine dining.





## Degnan's Kitchen

Valleywide Shuttle (Green Route) ONLY

Yosemite Welcome Center, Village Store, Yosemite Exploration Center & Bookstore, Theater, Wilderness Center, Yosemite Museum, The Ansel Adams Gallery, post office, & fast casual dining.





## **Yosemite Exploration Center & Museum**

Valleywide Shuttle (Green Route) ONLY

Yosemite Valley Welcome Center, Village Store, Yosemite Exploration Center & Bookstore, Theater, Wilderness Center, Yosemite Museum, The Ansel Adams Gallery, post office, & fast casual dining.





## **Lower Yosemite Fall**

Valleywide Shuttle (Green Route) ONLY Trailheads, picnic area.





**Yosemite Valley Lodge & Yosemite Falls Parking** 

Valleywide Shuttle (Green Route) ONLY

Parking, lodging, casual & upscale casual dining, gift shop, Camp 4, trailheads.





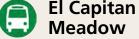


Valleywide Shuttle (Green Route) ONLY

Picnic area.







Valleywide Shuttle (Green Route) ONLY Scenic area.





Valleywide Shuttle (Green Route) ONLY

Picnic area.



**Four Mile Trailhead** 

Valleywide Shuttle (Green Route) ONLY Trailhead.





**Housekeeping Camp & Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center** 

All Shuttles

Lodging (seasonal), laundry (seasonal), exhibits & programs (seasonal)







All Shuttles

Parking, lodging, casual dining, gift & grocery, recreation rentals (seasonal), amphitheater.



Happy

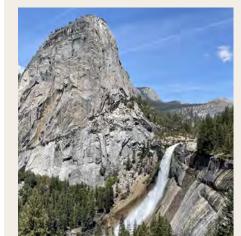




**Upper Pines Campground** 

All Shuttles

Upper Pines, Lower Pines, North Pines campgrounds.





All Shuttles Trailhead (Mist Trail, John Muir Trail, Half Dome), Art & Nature Center (seasonal).





**Mirror Lake** 





All Shuttles

Lower Pines, North Pines, Upper Pines campgrounds.





**Curry Village (westbound)** 

Parking, lodging, casual dining, gift & grocery, recreation rentals (seasonal), amphitheater.

Yosemite Guide March 20 - May 7, 2024 **Experience Your America Yosemite National Park** 

# **H** Events & Programs









## **Programs in Yosemite Valley**

Start Time	End Time	Program	Hosted by	Fee?	Reservations?	Days Offered
8:30 am	10:30 am	<b>Birding in Yosemite Valley</b> Experience the birdlife in Yosemite Valley with a local birding enthusiast. Listen, observe, and learn detailed information about the birds you come across.	Yosemite Conservancy	\$	Required; visit Yosemite.org/adventures	Mon & Wed starting March 25
9 am	1 pm	<b>Art Class</b> Slow down and connect with nature in a new way. Meet at the Happy Isles Art and Nature Center for art classes, such as mosaics, watercolors, and printmaking.	Yosemite Conservancy	\$	Required; visit Yosemite.org/art	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri starting April 8
9 am	10:30 am	<b>The Ansel Adams Gallery Photography Walk</b> Join a staff photographer at The Ansel Adams Gallery for a brief field lecture in Yosemite Valley.	The Ansel Adams Gallery		Required; visit AnselAdams.com/ photography-education	Tues & Thurs
9 am	12 pm	<b>In the Field: Creative Smartphone Photography</b> Join a staff photographer at The Ansel Adams Gallery to learn how to make better photographs with the camera you always carry.	The Ansel Adams Gallery	\$	Required; visit AnselAdams.com/ photography-education	Wed
9 am	11 am	<b>Climbers Coffee</b> An informal gathering at Colombia Boulder in Camp 4 with the Climbing Ranger Team, sharing climbing information and community building through coffee.	National Park Service		No; drop-in only.	Sun starting May 5
12 pm	2 pm	<b>Birding and Wildlife</b> Enjoy observing and learning about the birds and other wildlife you encounter, as well as the signs they leave behind. Families welcome!	Yosemite Conservancy	\$	Required; visit Yosemite.org/adventures	Mon & Wed
12:30 pm	4:30 pm	<b>Ask-a-Climber</b> Join Climbing Rangers in El Capitan Meadow to view rock climbers in action on the "Big Stone" (telescopes provided) and ask all of your climbing-related questions. Weather permitting.	National Park Service		No; drop-in only.	May 4 & 5 only
1 pm	5 pm	In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Join a staff photographer at The Ansel Adams Gallery for a field class around Yosemite Valley.	The Ansel Adams Gallery	\$	Required; visit AnselAdams.com/ photography-education	Mon
1 pm	5 pm	<b>Ansel Adams's Legacy and Your Digital Camera</b> Join a staff photographer at The Ansel Adams Gallery for a field class to learn how to make better photographs with your DSLR camera.	The Ansel Adams Gallery	\$	Required; visit AnselAdams.com/ photography-education	Thurs
1 pm	4 pm	<b>In the Field: Creative Smartphone Photography</b> Join a staff photographer at The Ansel Adams Gallery to learn how to make better photographs with the camera you always carry.	The Ansel Adams Gallery	\$	Required; visit AnselAdams.com/ photography-education	Sat
2 pm	2:15 pm	Family Ranger Talk Join a ranger to learn more about Yosemite. Topics vary daily. Meet in front of the welcome center in Yosemite Village (shuttle stops 1, 2, & 4.)	National Park Service		No; drop-in only	Sun, Mon, Sat
2 pm	3 pm	<b>Guided Nature Walk</b> Learn about Yosemite's natural history on this free guided walk. Meet at the Yosemite Valley Lodge Amphitheater.	Yosemite Hospitality		No; drop-in only	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs except May 1 & 2
2 pm	3:30 pm	<b>Forest Art Walk</b> Explore the interconnected nature of art and observation within Yosemite Valley's landscape! Unleash your creativity and capture the beauty of forests in this immersive watercolor nature journaling class.	Yosemite Conservancy	\$	Required; visit Yosemite.org/art	Fri starting April 26
3 pm	5 pm	<b>Ask a Yosemite Naturalist</b> A drop-in live Q&A with a naturalist at the new Yosemite Exploration Center (formerly the visitor center.) Located in Yosemite Village; shuttle stops 1, 2, 4, & 5.	Yosemite Conservancy		No; drop-in only.	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri March 20 to April 5 ONLY
5:30 pm	7:30 pm	<b>Sunset Walk</b> Experience the magic of Yosemite while the setting sun lights up your favorite granite features. On this casual walk, join a naturalist to learn about the natural and cultural history of the park.	Yosemite Conservancy	\$	Required; visit Yosemite.org/adventures	Thurs, Fri, Sat
6 pm	6:30 pm	<b>Evening Programs</b> Yosemite Naturalists present a variety of topics. Meet in the Yosemite Valley Lodge Cliff Room until March 30, then Curry Village Amphitheater starting April 5.	Yosemite Hospitality		No; drop-in only	Fri & Sat
8:30 pm	10 pm	Yosemite After Dark Join a Yosemite Naturalist for a nature walk at night! Please be sure to bring a flashlight.	Yosemite Hospitality	\$	Required; tickets/info at TravelYosemite.com	Sun, Mon, Tues, Fri, Sat
8:30 pm	10:30 pm	<b>Explore Yosemite's Night Sky</b> Minimal light pollution makes Yosemite Valley a perfect place for stargazing! Join a naturalist to learn about stars, planets, constellations, night sky lore, and more.	Yosemite Conservancy	\$	Required; visit Yosemite.org/adventures	Thurs, Fri, Sat starting March 23

Programs designed especially for children and their families.

Reprograms accessible to visitors in wheelchairs.

§ Programs with a fee.

Contact 209/379-5250 (v/txt) to request a sign language interpreter. Advanced notice of two weeks is requested, but not required.

Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advanced request for any public program. Inquire at any visitor center or tour desk.









## **Special Events & Programs**

Date & Time	Event	Where	Hosted by	Tickets/Registration
Friday, May 3 7:30 pm to 9 pm	Yosemite Landmarks: Origins and History of Yosemite's Places and Names Presented by Jeremy Evans, Nature Photographer/Filmmaker/Sierra Club Outings Leader. Have you ever wondered who explored and named Yosemite's iconic landmarks? Join Jeremy on this evening of historic discovery.	Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (shuttle stop 12)	Sierra Club	This is a free program; no registration required.
Saturday, May 4 7:30 pm to 9 pm	Amateur Astronomy & Astrophotography in Our National Parks and Public Lands with an intro to Light Pollution & Prevention Presented by Jeremy Evans, Nature Photographer/Filmmaker/Sierra Club Outings Leader. Featuring images and videos from Yosemite, the High Sierra, Yellowstone, Death Valley and the Southwest, Jeremy explores the wonder of the night sky.	Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (shuttle stop 12)	Sierra Club	This is a free program; no registration required.

## **More Activities with Park Partners**



Join Yosemite Conservancy for a memorable experience in the park! Advanced registration is required for all Outdoor 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 Art Classes**

April 8 – April 12: Watercolor with Steve Curl

April 15 – April 19: Watercolor with Steve Curl April 22 – April 26: Watercolor

Fieldsketching with Fran Calvert

April 29 – May 3: Watercolor with Jo-Neal Graves

May 6 May 10:

May 6 – May 10: Mosaics with Denise Davidson

## **Upcoming Outdoor Adventures**

March 24 Day Hike: Wildflowers on the Merced #1

April 2 Day Hike: Wildflowers on the Merced #1

**April 19** Yosemite Field School: Yosemite Valley Geology

Learn more and sign up for Outdoor Adventures:

Yosemite.org/experience/outdoor-adventures

## **Custom Adventures**

Plan a Custom Adventure with one of our naturalists. Learn more and sign up: Yosemite.org/custom-adventures.



Find more information and book activities at **TravelYosemite.com**, or visit a Tour & Activity desk (turn to page 4 for hours and locations.) **Valley Floor Tour** 

This narrated bus tour departs from the Yosemite Valley Lodge. Purchase tickets online or at a Tour & Activity

Tours at 10:00am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 2:00pm, & 5:30 pm

Yosemite Mountaineering School Learn to rock climb, or join an expert guide on a hike or overnight backpacking trip. Scheduled group activities or private, customized adventures may be available. Stop by the office at Curry Village, open 8:30 am to 12 pm, & 1 to 4:30 pm.

## Bike Rentals

Turn to page 4 for bike stand hours & locations.

Bike rental stands open for the season as early as March 25, if conditions on the Valley floor allow.

Rent bicycles for a half day or full day, and enjoy over 12 miles of scenic paved bike trails in Yosemite Valley. Various sizes of bikes and bike trailers may be available; bicycles are first-come, first-served.

Call the Yosemite Valley Lodge Bike Stand to inquire about ADA bikes and scooters: 209/372-1208.



The Ansel Adams Gallery is located in Yosemite Village. (Turn to page 5 for hours.) Experience a variety of fine arts, handcrafts, and a collection of Ansel Adams' original photographs. The gallery also offers half-day or full-day photography classes and private guided tours led by a resident staff photographer. Classes require reservations; call 209/372-4413 or visit AnselAdams.com/photography-education.

## Gallery Exhibitions:

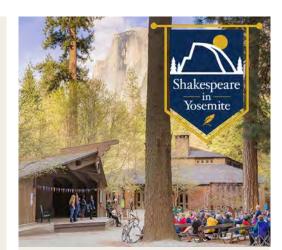
June 8.

Winter's Lullaby, Spring's Prelude: Photographs by Charlotte Gibb, February 25 through April 20 Language of Light: Photographs by Alan Ross, April 21 through



The Sierra Club's Yosemite
Conservation Heritage Center
(shuttle stop 12) is opening for
the season on May 1st. The
Center will be open Wednesday
to Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm.
Sierra Club volunteers welcome
visitors to explore the exhibits,
the natural history library, and the
children's corner.

For more information, call 209/372-4542 or visit the Sierra Club website: SierraClub.org/ yosemite-conservation-heritage-center.



Shakespeare in Yosemite
A Midsummer Yosemite's Dream

Fri, April 26 @ 5 pm Sat, April 27 @ 12 pm & 5 pm Sun, April 28 @ 12 pm at the Curry Village Amphitheater

Shakespeare in Yosemite returns for its 7th season of fun, free, musical shows.

This year's A Midsummer Yosemite's Dream is especially adapted for the park and inspired by a discovery in the Yosemite archives that the famous director Max Reinhardt declined an invitation to stage Dream in front of Yosemite Falls in 1934.

Ninety years later, 1930s fairies collide with 2024 Rangers and tourists in a show full of humor, heart, and ecology.

Shakespeare in Yosemite is a collaboration between University of California Merced, Yosemite Hospitality, and the National Park Service.

Photo by Shawn Overton

Q

# ☆ Trails





Grizzly Giant (Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias)

Nevada Fall (Yosemite Valley)

## What You Need to Know



## Hiking in Spring

Trail access is limited when Tioga Road and Glacier Point Road are closed. The best options for hiking this time of year are typically in Yosemite Valley, Hetch Hetchy, and Wawona. Expect to find flooded areas on the Valley floor and snow or ice at higher elevations. Winter trail closures may still be in effect (see trail information on the following page.) Use extreme caution around any flowing water, especially during spring snowmelt.



Pets are not allowed on hiking trails.

Pets are only permitted are Pets are only permitted on paved biking and walking paths, in most campgrounds, and in parking areas. Pets must be leashed at all times.

Service dogs are legally permitted anywhere that visitors can go. A service dog is trained to perform a specific task to assist a person with a disability. Emotional support, therapy, and companion animals are subject to all pet regulations.



### Proper food storage is required by law.

Bears can easily break into vehicles to obtain food. During the day, food must be hidden from sight inside a locked vehicle with all windows and vents completely shut. At night, food, trash, and other scented items must be removed from vehicles and stored in a bear-resistant locker. Visit KeepBearsWild.org for more information.



## View wildlife from a distance.

It is dangerous and illegal to approach or feed wildlife. Keep food within arm's reach at all times.



## Ask a ranger about trail conditions.

Trails can be impacted by snow, flooding, and rockfall. Some stream crossings do not have bridges and can be unsafe when water is high.



## Stay hydrated.

Carry and consume plenty of water and salty snacks. Any water from natural sources should be treated before drinking.



## Hiking at high elevation can be difficult.

You may become tired more quickly than expected—or even feel sick. Take breaks, drink plenty of water, and adjust plans if needed.



## Be prepared for changing conditions.

Check the forecast and carry waterproof layers. Stay off domes and other exposed places when there is a chance of thunderstorms.



## Stay on the trail.

Protect fragile vegetation and avoid getting lost by staying on designated trails. Stay behind barriers, and do not enter water above waterfalls.



## Pack it out.

Most trails do not have toilets or trash cans, so plan ahead. Human waste must be deposited at least 200 feet from trails and water. Solid waste must be buried six inches deep. Pack out all trash, including toilet paper.

In an emergency, call or text 911





## A Wilderness Permit is Required for All Overnight Trips

### Wilderness permits are required year-round for all overnight trips into Yosemite's Wilderness.

Visit go.nps.gov/WildPermits to learn how to get a permit this spring or to plan for the summer ahead.

When a peak-hours reservation is required for park entry and Wilderness Centers are closed, visit go.nps.gov/ WildConditions to learn how to pick up your permit.

Please come prepared with your own approved bearresistant food canister—or rent one at the welcome center in Yosemite Valley during regular operating hours.

### **Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center**

Opens for the season April 26; hours are 8 am to 5 pm. Before April 26, self-register for permits (for Yosemite Valley trailheads only) in front of the welcome center in Yosemite Village.

## **Big Wall Climbing Permits**

Self-registration permits for overnight big wall climbs are available at El Capitan Crossover, near shuttle stop 9.

## Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio

Closed for the season. Self-registration permits for the Wawona trailheads only are available on the front porch.

## **Big Oak Flat Information Station**

Self-registration permits for the Crane Flat area and Tioga Road trailheads only are available on the front porch.

## **Badger Pass Ranger Station (A-Frame)**

Until Mar 31 only: self-registration wilderness permits for the Glacier Point Road trailheads only are available at the Badger Pass A-Frame, conditions permitting.

## **Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station**

Wilderness permits for the Hetch Hetchy trailheads only are available at the Entrance Station kiosk daily from 8 am to 5 pm. Permits are self-registration until April 5.

## Hiking Half Dome

The Half Dome cables are down for the season. Permits are required 7 days a week when the cables are up, from late May to mid-October, conditions permitting. The pre-season lottery application period for day use permits begins March 1, 2024 and ends March 31, 2024. More information is available at go.nps.gov/HDpermits.

Backpackers wanting to climb Half Dome as part of a wilderness trip can find information at go.nps.gov/HDwildPermits.

## **Trails in Yosemite Valley**

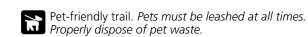
Trails may still be snowy, icy, or flooded in early spring. Ask about conditions and trail closures before you go.

Trail	Length & Elevation Gain	Starting Point
Shorter Walks & Hikes		
BRIDALVEIL FALL Take a short stroll to the base of Bridalveil Fall. A gentle incline leads to a wheelchair-accessible viewing area, while a steeper path climbs closer to the base of the fall. Stay behind barriers. Rocks at the base of the waterfall are very slick and dangerous.	0.5 mi (0.8 km) round-trip, paved with gentle incline.	Bridalveil Fall parking area or Southside Drive
LOWER YOSEMITE FALL A short but rewarding trail to the base of Yosemite Falls. The east side of the loop is wheelchair-accessible. Expect falls to be dry by late summer, with heavy spray in spring. Stay behind barriers. Rocks at the base of the waterfall are very slick and dangerous.	1 mi (1.6 km) round-trip, paved with gentle incline.	Shuttle Stop 6
COOK'S MEADOW LOOP Take a relaxed stroll and enjoy views of Yosemite Falls, Half Dome, and other valley highlights. Look and listen for birds and other wildlife in early morning and around dusk. Sections with pavement or boardwalk are wheelchair- and pet-friendly.	1 mi (1.6 km) round-trip, flat pavement & boardwalk	Shuttle Stop 6
MIRROR LAKE (dry in summer & fall) Take a short walk on the paved bike trail to the front of the lake, at the base of Half Dome. Continue on the unpaved hiking trail for a 4.5-mile loop. Pets are allowed only on paved sections. Vehicles with a valid disability placard may drive to the front of Mirror Lake.	2 mi (1.6 km) round-trip, 100 ft (30 m) elevation gain	Shuttle Stop 17
MIST TRAIL TO VERNAL FALL FOOTBRIDGE Hike the short but very steep first section of the Mist Trail out and back for a view of Vernal Fall.	0.8 mi (1.3 km) one way from Happy Isles paved, 400 ft (120 m) elevation gain	Happy Isles, Shuttle Stop 16
Half-Day Hikes		
MIST TRAIL TO VERNAL FALL From the footbridge, follow the Mist Trail up a steep granite stairway to the top of Vernal Fall. This section of the Mist Trail is closed until early spring due to hazardous, icy conditions. When closed, follow the marked winter route to access Vernal Fall via the John Muir Trail and Clark Point.	1.2 mi (1.9 km) one way from Happy Isles 1,000 ft (300 m) total elevation gain	Happy Isles, Shuttle Stop 16
MIST TRAIL TO NEVADA FALL From the top of Vernal Fall, continue on the rugged Mist Trail to the top of Nevada Fall. Return the same way or via the John Muir Trail. A section of the John Muir Trail, between Clark Point and the Panorama Trail junction, closes in winter and early spring due to hazardous, icy conditions.	2.5 mi (4 km) one way from Happy Isles 2,000 ft (120 m) total elevation gain	Happy Isles, Shuttle Stop 16
Full-Day Hikes		
<b>YOSEMITE FALLS TRAIL</b> A steep, rugged trail with dozens of switchbacks. Hike the first mile to Columbia Rock for stunning valley views. Continue to the top of Yosemite Falls, which plummets 2,425 feet to the alley floor.	7.2 mi (11.6 km) round-trip 2,700 ft (820 m) elevation gain	Camp 4, Shuttle Stop 7
<b>FOUR MILE TRAIL TO GLACIER POINT</b> This extremely challenging trail offers spectacular views of Yosemite Valley. The upper section of this trail, starting just above Union Point, closes each winter due to very hazardous conditions. The entire trail may close if conditions are poor. Closures can be in effect through May.	9.6 mi (15.4 km) round-trip 3,200 ft (975 m) elevation gain	Shuttle Stop 11
Choose Your Own Adventure		
<b>YOSEMITE VALLEY LOOP TRAIL</b> Take the grand tour of the Yosemite Valley floor on this quiet, less-traveled trail. Hike a short section, or spend a day exploring the entire loop. Pick up a trail map at the Yosemite Valley Welcome Center ( <i>hours listed on page 2</i> ) to view distances from point-to-point and to plan your hike.	Up to 11.5 mi (18.5 km) Mostly flat, some gentle incline	Shuttle Stops 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, & 19.

## **Trails Outside of Yosemite Valley**

Trails may still be snowy, icy, or flooded in early spring. Ask about conditions before you go.

Trail	Length & Elevation Gain	Starting Point
MARIPOSA GROVE OF GIANT SEQUOIAS Shuttle service to the grove begins as early as April 1, if conditions allow. When shuttles aren't running, hike two miles (each way) via the road or the Washburn Trail from the parking area to the front of the grove. From there, hike an additional one mile (each way) to the Grizzly Giant, or explore several additional miles of trails. The upper grove may be snowy in early spring.	Min. 4 mi (6.4 km) round-trip 500 ft (150 m) elevation gain	Mariposa Grove Welcome Plaza & Parking Area (South Entrance, one hour from Yosemite Valley)
<b>TUOLUMNE GROVE OF GIANT SEQUOIAS</b> Hike one mile down to this smaller, more secluded grove, located northwest of Yosemite Valley near Crane Flat. A short nature trail loops through the grove. The trail may be snowy in early spring.	2.5 mi (4 km) round-trip 500 ft (150 m) gain on return	Tuolumne Grove Trailhead, near Crane Flat
<b>MERCED GROVE OF GIANT SEQUOIAS</b> Hike 1.5 miles down to Yosemite's smallest and least-visited sequoia grove, located northwest of Yosemite Valley on Big Oak Flat Road. Visit a small cluster of sequoias and a historic cabin. The trail may be snowy in early spring.	3 mi (4.8 km) round-trip 520 ft (160 m) gain on return	Merced Grove Trailhead, on Big Oak Flat Road
<b>WAWONA MEADOW LOOP</b> Enjoy a scenic loop around the meadow on an unpaved fire road. Bicycles and leashed pets are permitted.	3.5 mi (4 km) round-trip mostly flat, but terrain may be uneven	Meadow Loop Trailhead, across the road from the Wawona Hotel
<b>HETCH HETCHY &amp; WAPAMA FALLS</b> Follow the shoreline of the reservoir to the base of Wapama Falls. The Wapama Falls footbridge may close when water levels are dangerously high.	5 mi (8 km) round-trip 500 ft (150 m) elevation gain	Hetch Hetchy (trail begins across the dam)





**10** Experience Your America **Yosemite National Park** 

