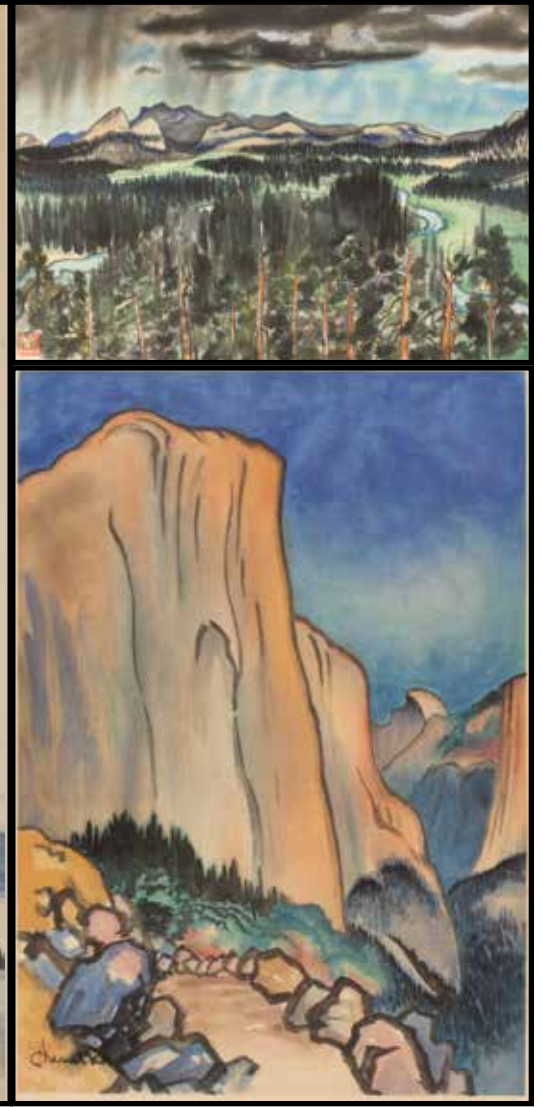
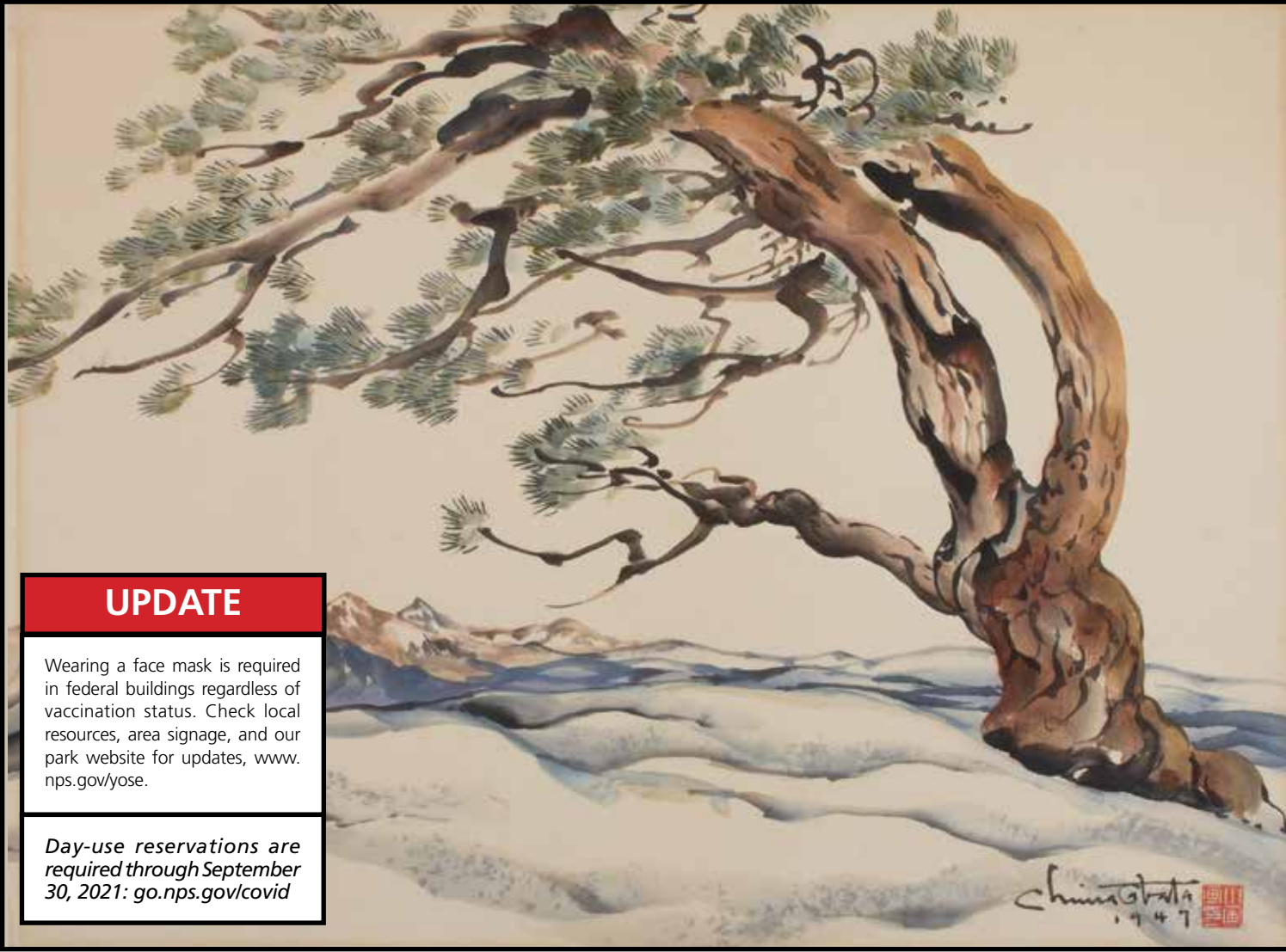


Yosemite Guide



Find us on @YosemiteNPS



UPDATE

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.

Day-use reservations are required through September 30, 2021: go.nps.gov/covid

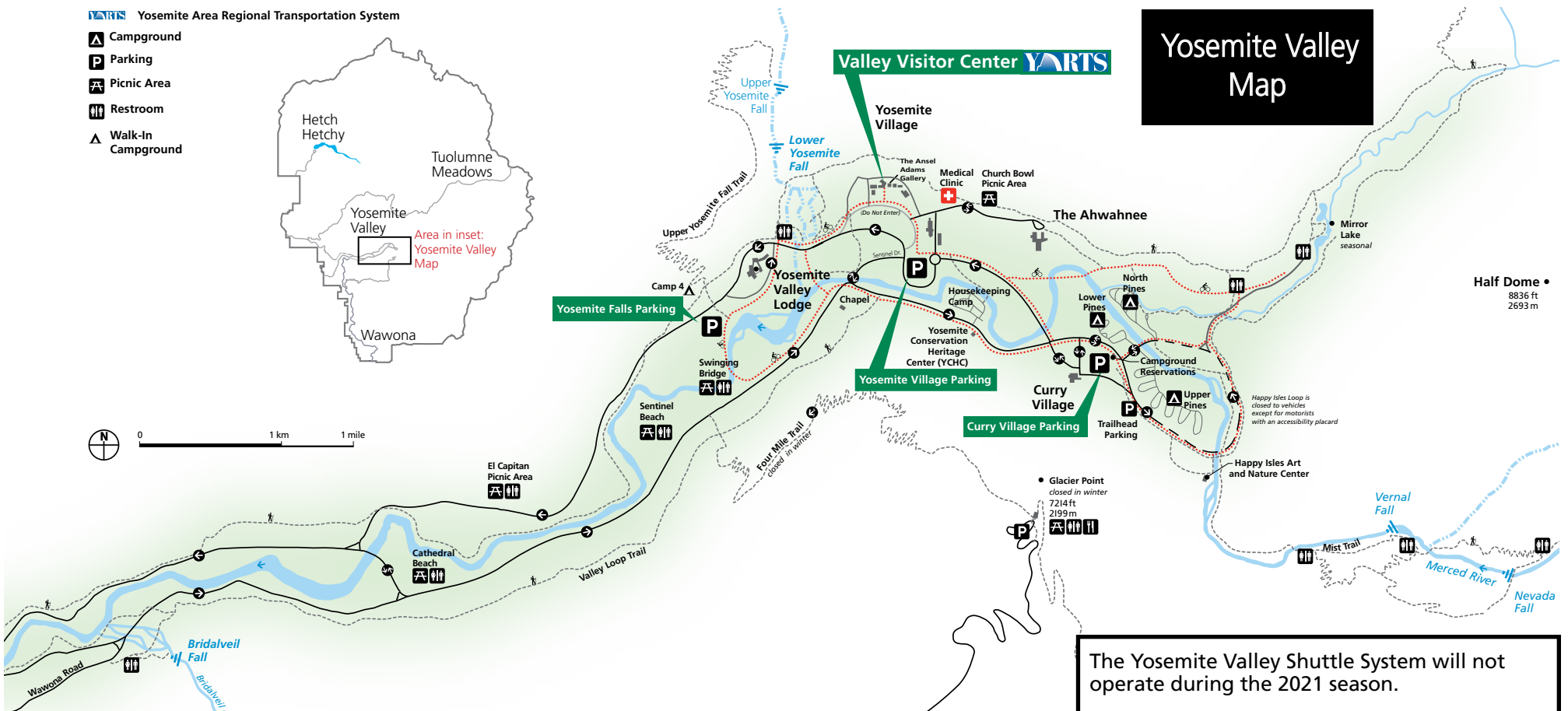
Left: Chiura Obata, untitled original artwork, YOSE 109522, Yosemite National Park. Bottom Right: Chiura Obata, "El Capitan; Yosemite National Park U.S.A.," YOSE 109528, Yosemite National Park. Upper Right: Chiura Obata, "Before Thunder Storm, Tuolumne Meadow, High Sierra, Calif., U.S.A.," YOSE 109529, Yosemite National Park. All Obata art reproduced with permission by the Estate of Chiura Obata.

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Guide September 29, 2021 - November 30, 2021

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Guide September 29, 2021 - November 30, 2021



Winter Weather Driving and Chain Control Information:

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



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



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



R3 - ALL vehicles are required to install chains/cables, regardless of having mud and snow tires or 4-wheel/all-wheel drive capability, **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

*"M+S" will be on the side of your tires if they are mud and snow tires.

Things to Do

Summer in Yosemite

SAFETY ALERT

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

WELCOME

Ask A Ranger

Drop by the visitor contact station located in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center to ask your Yosemite-related questions and to get park information and updates. Follow signs to park in Visitor Parking then follow signs to the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Open 9am to 5pm.



Park App

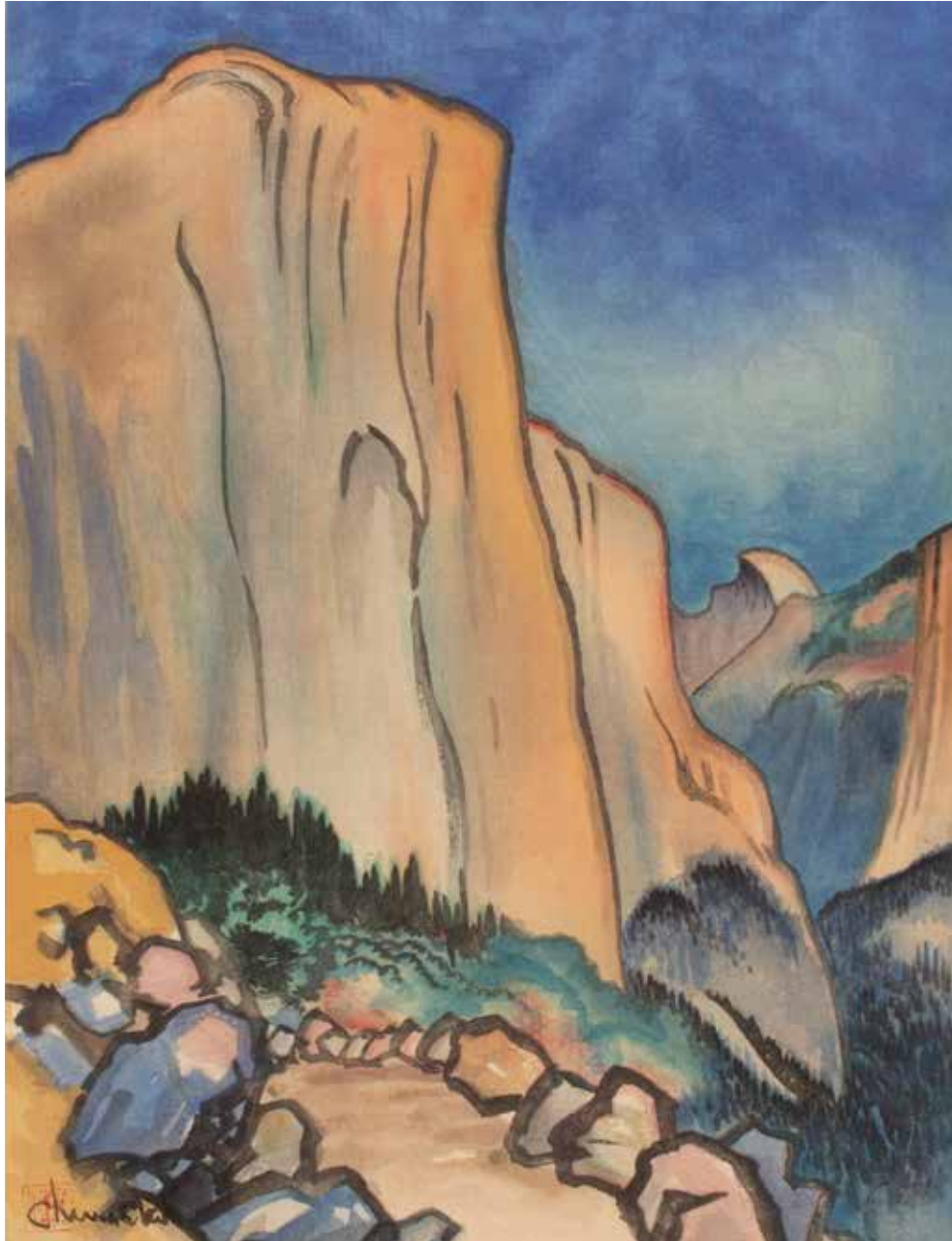
Download the National Park Service app for an interactive map, hiking trails, and park updates. See page 11.

Reservations Required to Enter Yosemite

A reservation is required to drive into Yosemite through September 30, 2021. You must display your permit on your dashboard at all times while inside the park. Permits are valid for three consecutive days for unlimited entries and are not valid for overnight use. For more information, see go.nps.gov/covid.

How Will My Visit Be Impacted?

The COVID-19 pandemic will continue to affect park operations in 2021. Visitation 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.



Read about the first annual Obata Art Weekend, held in Yosemite National Park this past August, on page 10. Chiura Obata, "El Capitan; Yosemite National Park U.S.A.," YOSE 109528, Yosemite National Park. Reproduced with permission by the Estate of Chiura Obata.

Currently open and available	Not open or available at this time	Unavailable in 2021
An outdoor visitor contact station is located in front of the Valley Visitor Center.	Visitor Centers are closed until further notice; outdoor visitor contact stations available.	All shuttles and tours are canceled during this time
Campgrounds in Yosemite Valley are open, reservations required, see page 7.	Many programs are canceled until further notice, see page 4 for list of current programs	Yosemite Theater and Yosemite Museum are closed during this time.
Select dining and shopping establishments are open and encourage social distancing.	Some campgrounds are currently closed. There is no first come, first served camping.	Tuolumne Meadows Lodge and High Sierra Camps are closed at this time.

THINGS TO DO IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

Custom Yosemite Experiences

Join a Yosemite Conservancy naturalist guide or art instructor 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.

Custom Art Classes: Explore nature through drawing, painting, sketching and journaling. We also offer creative activities for kids! yosemite.org/custom-art.

Want to connect with Yosemite from home? Schedule a virtual adventure or art class: adventures@yosemite.org or art@yosemite.org.

Yosemite Mountaineering School (YMS)

YMS offers world-class rock climbing and instruction, private guided climbs, custom and group hikes, guided backpacking trips and cross-country skiing. YMS guides, recognized as some of the finest rock climbers in the world, have a wide variety of skiing, climbing and mountaineering skills and experience. As the only authorized climbing guides in the Park, they know these cliffs like no one else — and can share their unparalleled knowledge with everyone from pros to novices. Reach your adventure goals with YMS, 209/372-8344 or yms@aramark.com.

Walking and Hiking

Yosemite Valley has plenty of year-round walking and hiking possibilities. Stop by the outdoor visitor contact station in front of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for trail maps and updated weather and trail conditions.

Bicycling

Experience several miles of bicycle paths in Yosemite Valley. Use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Valley Lodge or Curry Village, conditions permitting. See page 5 for Bike Stand hours. Or, see page 4 to learn about the Yosemite Bike Share program. *Bicycles are only allowed on paved roads and paved bike paths.*



Entering a National Park

Yosemite is a place where wilderness prevails. Prepare yourself for a wild experience. The National Park Service is bound by its mission to protect Yosemite's natural and cultural resources for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. Please, be attentive to the regulations in place to protect park resources (page 9) and those designed for your safety (page 8).

Fire – Police – Medical Emergency:

Dial 911
Medical Clinic (in Yosemite Valley)
 Open 7 days per week from 9am to 7pm.
 Medical Clinic Phone: (209) 372-4637.

Road, Weather, and Park

Information: (209) 372-0200
Yosemite Village Garage - 8am to 5pm, 24 hour AAA towing, NO gas, propane service until 4:30pm. (209) 372-1060

Access for People with Disabilities

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

Sign Language interpreting is available upon request. Contact Deaf Services at (209) 379-5250 (v/txt). Two weeks advance notice is requested.

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

Audio tours available at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.

Accessible parking spaces available west of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

Park Projects

Bridalveil Fall Rehabilitation Project

Why: To rehabilitate visitor facilities at Bridalveil Fall and surrounding area, and to protect natural and cultural resources.
 When: 2021
 Visitor Impact: Trail, comfort station and parking lot will be closed due to construction.

Tioga Road Rehabilitation Plan

Why: To make safety improvements and manage roadside parking and traffic flow while preserving natural and cultural resources along the road.
 When: 2021 and 2022
 Visitor Impact: 30-minute traffic delays along Tioga Road due to construction.

Glacier Point Road Rehabilitation Plan

Why: Road maintenance and preserving natural and cultural resources along the road.
 When: 2022
 Visitor Impact: Glacier Point Rd closure until Spring 2023



Inside:

- 01 Things to Do
- 04 Exhibits and Programs
- 05 Services
- 07 Permit Information
- 09 Protecting Yourself
- 10 Feature Story
- Back Yosemite Valley Map

Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees

Non-commercial car, truck, RV, or van with 15 or fewer passenger seats
(No per-person fee)

Vehicle Valid for 7 days
\$35/Vehicle

Motorcycle Valid for 7 days
\$30/motorcycle

Individual Valid for 7 days
\$20 (In a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse),

Yosemite Pass \$70,
Valid for one year in Yosemite.

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

Interagency Senior Pass \$80
(Lifetime) For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.

Interagency Annual Senior Pass \$20
For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.

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

Interagency Military Pass (Free) (Annual) for active duty US military, US military veterans, and Gold Star families.

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

Regional Info

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

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

Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
(800) 446-1333; www.tcvb.com

Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
(559) 683-4636; www.yosemitethisyear.com

Highway 132/49
Coulterville Visitor Center
(209) 878-3329

Highway 140/49
California Welcome Center, Merced
(800) 446-5353 or (209) 724-8104
www.yosemite-gateway.org

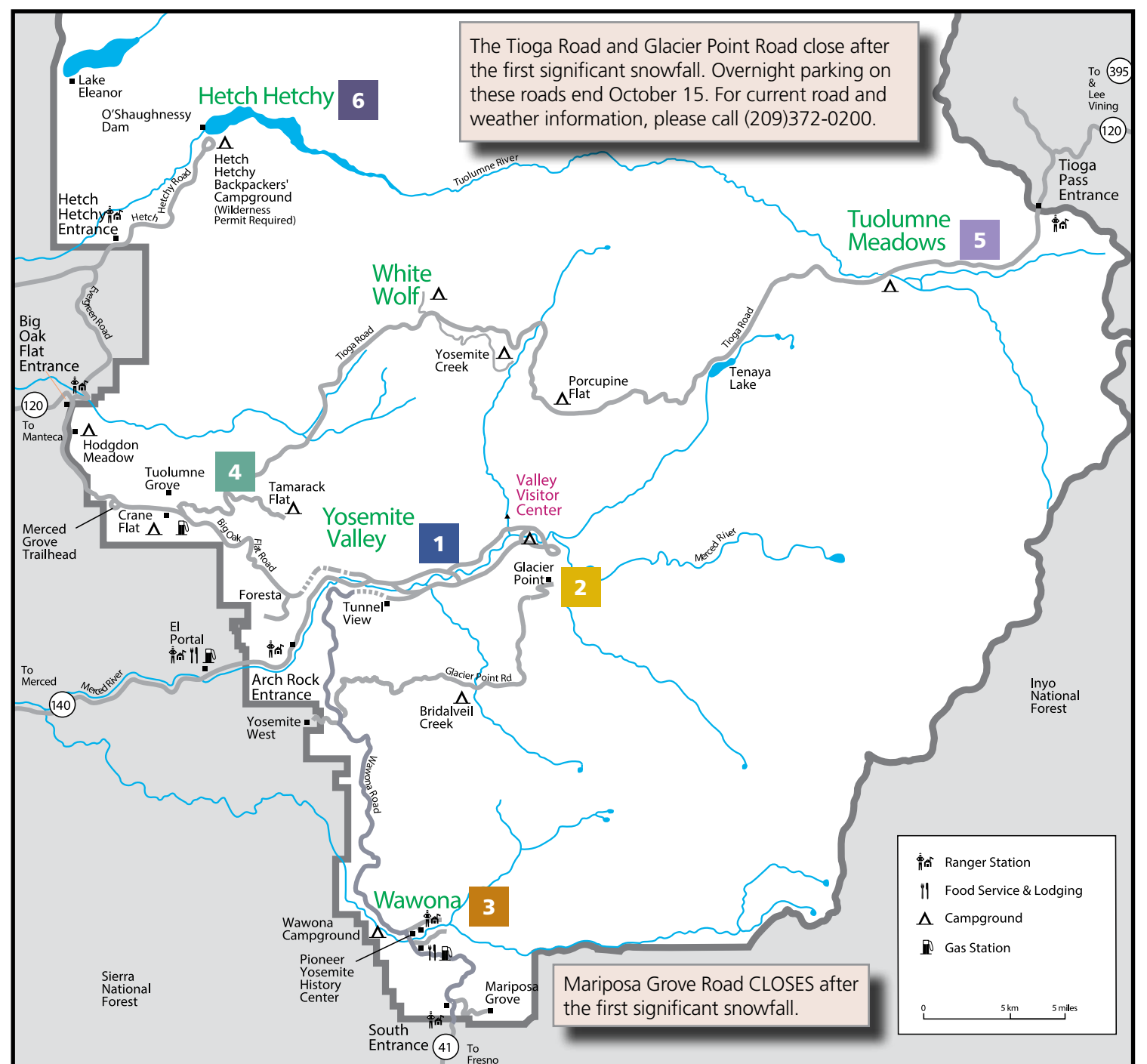
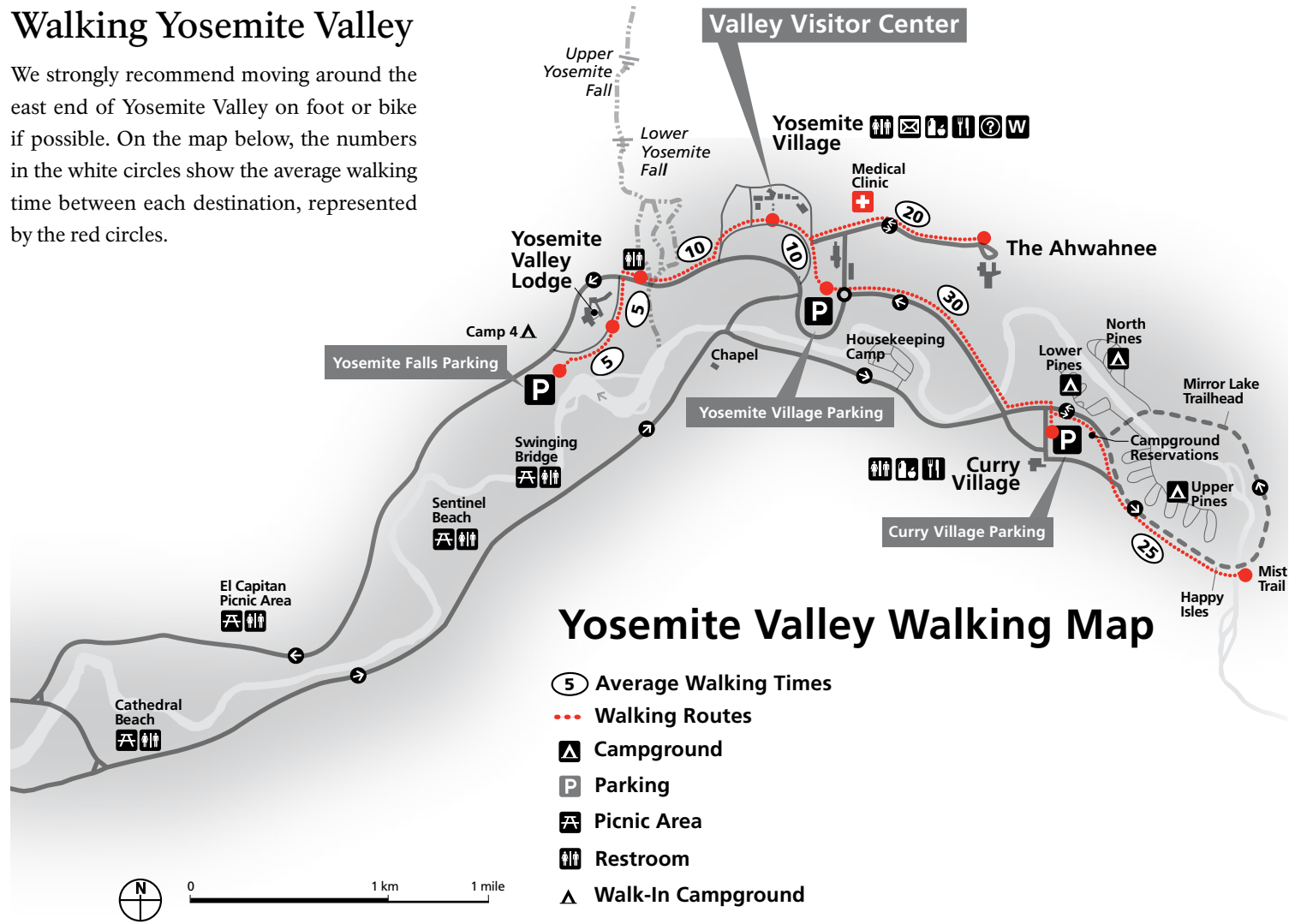
Mariposa County Visitor Center
(866) 425-3366 or (209) 966-7081

Yosemite 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

Walking Yosemite Valley

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



Yosemite Valley

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

Glacier Point Road

2 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 snow fall. 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

3 The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park's south entrance station. While the Mariposa Grove Road closes to cars in the winter, approximately from the end of November until mid-March, the road is open to hikers, snowshoers, and skiers, and all trails in the grove remain open for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. The nearby Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite.

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

4 Crane Flat is located 16 miles from Yosemite Valley at the junction of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. A number of hikes through pleasant meadows are available—when snow covers the ground these turn into delightful ski and snowshoe tracks. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking 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

5 The Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. The road closes after the first big snowfall, and overnight parking ends on October 15. The road's elevation ranges from 6,200 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

6 Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. The area's low elevation makes it a good place to hike in autumn and winter. The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles (1¼ hour) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from 8am to 5pm. 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.



Valley View in fall. NPS Image / Christine Loberg



Half Dome view from Glacier Point. Image by Armand Williams



Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. NPS Image / Jeffrey Trust



Tenaya Lake. Image by Kenny Karst



Hetch Hetchy. NPS Image

Yosemite Valley

Programs, Art, and Exhibits

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

A visitor contact station is available in front of the visitor center for information and updates from 9am to 5pm. The Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore will be operating as an outdoor “to-go” store, daily from 9am to 5pm.

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 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 actively use. Located behind the Yosemite Museum in Yosemite Village.

YOSEMITE RENAISSANCE 37 -

A call to artists! This competition is open to artists world-wide and offers cash awards. Our mission is to encourage the public to protect and preserve parks and wild lands through art! Visit www.yosemiterenaissance.org to learn more.

Yosemite Conservancy ADVENTURES AND ART CLASSES

Join Yosemite Conservancy for a memorable park experience! Preregistration is required for all Conservancy adventures and art classes.

Outdoor Adventures: Our naturalist guides lead day hikes, backpacking trips, art retreats and more. Register: yosemite.org/adventures.

- Oct 2-3 *Day Hikes: Big Walls and Boulders*
- Oct 14-17 *Workshop: Autumn Light Photography*
- Oct 22-24 *Day Hikes: Historic Roads*
- Nov 6 *Day Hike: Woodpeckers and Fire Ecology*

Art Classes: Outdoor art classes meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center, Monday through Friday, 10am to 2pm, through October 22, and are taught by professional artists. Please register in advance at yosemite.org/art:

- Sep 20-Oct 1 *Watercolor Painting with Casey Chevront*
- Oct 11-15 *Watercolor with John Gates*

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.

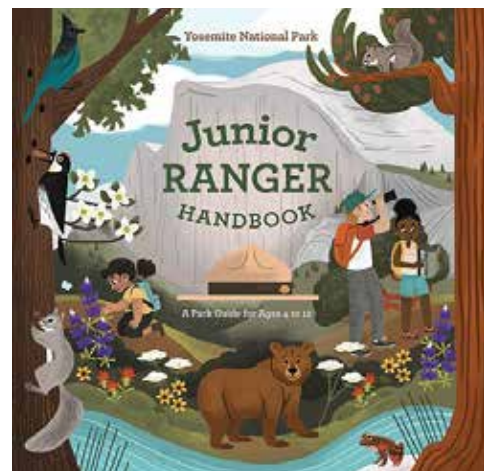


Illustration by Stefani Lacy

The Ansel Adams Gallery

The Ansel Adams Gallery is open daily from 10am to 4pm, closes at 3pm beginning Nov 1. Experience a variety of fine arts, hand-crafts, and a collection of Ansel Adams original photographs. We offer half-day photography classes and private guided tours, reservations required. Call 209/372- 4413 or visit anseladams.com/photographyeducation. Located in Yosemite Village.



Image courtesy of The Ansel Adams Gallery

Current Exhibition

Starting Smart: An Evolution of Photography
August 8, 2021 - October 2, 2021

This exhibit features images made by smartphones and printed as fine art photographs finished in gold leaf, platinum, cyanotype and pigment. Also on display will be a copy of the first photograph ever made in Yosemite by Charles L. Weed in 1859, and one of the first digital photographs of Yosemite made by Ted Orland in 1986. A monitor on hand will also feature a rotating slideshow of work by park guests.

Next Exhibition

Silver Pastoral: Original Photographs by Roman Loranc
October 3, 2021 - November 13, 2021

Growing up in Poland Roman Loranc found his own solace exploring the woods, rivers and meadow marshlands in the mountains around his home, the small village of Rybarzowice. These were “safe havens” which became muses. Today throughout his many travels, Mr. Loranc trains his large-format camera on these subjects, composing visual poems from light and silver. His images reveal the tranquility he still finds in these settings, and his prints commemorate an ideal pastoral.

Roman currently lives and works out of his studio in Northern California producing delicate hand printed gelatin silver photographs that are toned in sepia and selenium. Please join us at The Ansel Adams Gallery for his exhibition *Silver Pastoral* opening from October 3 through November 13, 2021.

Future Exhibition

Reverence: Photographs by Jeff Conley
November 14, 2021 - January 15, 2022

Jeff Conley has long been a part of The Ansel Adams Gallery family of artists. We are thrilled to have his delicately crafted silver, platinum and pigment prints on display in Yosemite Valley to help wrap up our 2021 exhibition schedule. We hope you stop by to enjoy these amazing photographs in person.



Yosemite Bike Share

The free Yosemite Bike Share is open until Friday, October 29, dependent on weather conditions! You can use the bike share for short trips (up to two hours) in Yosemite Valley.

1. **Get connected:** Download the Yosemite Bike Share mobile app for Apple/iOS or Android in advance.
2. **Get a bike:** Use the app to unlock a bike at one of the Yosemite Bike Share stations, located at the Yosemite Village Parking Area and Yosemite Falls Day Use Parking Area.
3. **Get pedaling:** Ride safely! Use the helmet provided with the bike (or wear your own) and stay on roads and paved bike paths.

Visit yosemite.org/yosemite-bike-share to learn more about this program, see a map of bike paths and plan your routes.



TIME	PROGRAMS - (NPS = National Park Service; YC = Yosemite Conservancy; ♿ = Accessible)	DURATION	EXCEPTION DATES	LOCATION	SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
9:00am	Climber Coffee: At Camp 4 Meet with NPS climbing rangers to discuss current events surrounding the climbing community. Meet near Camp 4 registration booth. (NPS)	2 hrs.	Ends Oct 31	Yosemite Valley	X						
9:00am	A Stroll Through Time: Dive into Yosemite's dynamic cultural history. yosemite.org/adventures . \$10 (YC)	2 hrs.		Yosemite Valley				X			
9:00am	Ansel Adams's Legacy and Your Digital Camera Register at The Ansel Adams Gallery. \$ (TAAG)	4 hrs.		Yosemite Valley	X						
9:00am	In the Field: Creative Smartphone Photography Register at The Ansel Adams Gallery. \$ (TAAG)	3 hrs.		Yosemite Valley		X					
Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families.											
9:00am	In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Register at The Ansel Adams Gallery. \$ (TAAG)	4 hrs.		Yosemite Valley				X			
9:00am	Demystifying Digital Exposure Register at The Ansel Adams Gallery. \$ (TAAG)	2 hrs.		Yosemite Valley							X
12:00pm	Stagecoach Stories All aboard for a ride through history. Register at yosemite.org/adventures . \$10 (YC)	2 hrs.		Yosemite Valley				X			
12:30pm	Ask-A-Climber View climbers on El Capitan through spotting scopes and discover the world of vertical adventure on Yosemite's big walls. West side of El Capitan bridge (NPS)	4 hrs.	Ends Oct 30	Yosemite Valley	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1:00pm	In the Field: Creative Smartphone Photography Register at The Ansel Adams Gallery. \$ (TAAG)	3 hrs.		Yosemite Valley					X		X
1:00pm	In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams Register at The Ansel Adams Gallery. \$ (TAAG)	4 hrs.		Yosemite Valley		X					
2:00pm	VERTICAL WILDERNESS WALK (12 person limit) Walk with a climbing ranger and learn about life on Yosemite's big walls. Moderately strenuous 2-mile roundtrip walk. West side of El Capitan bridge. (NPS)	2 hrs.	Ends Oct 30	Yosemite Valley							X
3:00pm	Yosemite Valley Sunset Walk Register at yosemite.org/adventures . \$10 (YC)	2 hrs.		Yosemite Valley			X		X		
7:00pm	Explore Yosemite's Night Sky Register at yosemite.org/adventures . \$25 (YC)	2 hr.		Yosemite Valley			X		X		

Services in Yosemite

Schedule

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



The Ahwahnee Dining Room. NPS Image / Sheree Peshlakai

Hours listed are core hours and may be extended during peak visitation.

Food and Drink

YOSEMITE VILLAGE

Village Grill
11am to 5pm, closes for the season Oct 24

Degnan's Kitchen
7am to 11am; 11:30am to 6pm

THE AHWAHNEE

Dining Room
Breakfast: 7am to 10am
Lunch: 11:30am to 2pm
Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

The Ahwahnee Bar
2pm to 9pm

YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE

Starbucks Coffee
Closed for the Season

Base Camp Eatery
Breakfast: 7:30am to 10am
Lunch: 11am to 2pm
Dinner: 4pm to 8pm

Mountain Room Bar
5pm to 9pm

Mountain Room Restaurant

Temporarily closed due to COVID-19

CURRY VILLAGE

Coffee Corner
6:30am to 11am,
closes Nov 28; Reopens Dec 18

Pizza Deck
12pm to 9pm,
closes Nov 27; Reopens Dec 17

Bar 1899
2pm to 9pm,
closes Nov 27; Reopens Dec 17

Meadow Grill
7am to 10:30am
closes Nov 28; Reopens Dec 18

WAWONA AREA

Wawona Hotel Dining Room,
closes for the season Nov 29

Breakfast: 7am to 10am
Lunch: 11am to 2pm
Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:30pm

Groceries

YOSEMITE VILLAGE

Village Store
8am to 8pm

YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE

Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm

CURRY VILLAGE

Gift/Grocery
9am to 7pm,
10am to 6pm beginning Oct 31

EL PORTAL

El Portal Market
9am to 6pm

WAWONA

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop
9am to 5pm

Books, Gifts, & Apparel

YOSEMITE VILLAGE

Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore
at Yosemite Valley Visitor Center
9am to 5pm (outdoor "to-go" store)

The Ansel Adams Gallery
10am to 3pm

Village Store
8am to 8pm

THE AHWAHNEE

Gift Shop

9am to 7pm

Sweet Shop

11am to 6pm

YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE

Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm

CURRY VILLAGE

Gift/Grocery

9am to 7pm,
10am to 6pm beginning Oct 31

Yosemite Mountain Shop

8am to 4:30pm

GLACIER POINT

Glacier Point Gift Shop

9am to 5pm, closes for the season Oct 17

WAWONA

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop

9am to 5pm

Yosemite Conservancy Depot at Mariposa Grove Welcome Plaza

9am to 5pm, closes for the season Oct 17

Recreation

CURRY VILLAGE

Bike Rental Stand

10am to 5pm, closes for the season Oct 31

Yosemite Mountaineering School

8:30am to 12pm; 1pm to 4:30pm,
closes for the season Nov 21

YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE

Bike Rental Stand

10am to 5pm, closes for the season Oct 31

Gas Stations

EL PORTAL

Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

WAWONA SERVICE STATION

Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

CRANE FLAT

Pay 24 hours with credit or debit card

General Services

Medical Clinic - Yosemite Valley

209/372-4637; **Emergency: CALL 9-1-1**

Monday - Friday: 9am to 7pm,

Closed during federal holidays

Yosemite Village Garage

Towing available 24 hours

NO gas in Yosemite Valley.

Post Offices

YOSEMITE VILLAGE

Main Office

Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm

Saturday: 10am to noon

YOSEMITE VALLEY LODGE

Monday - Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm

EL PORTAL

Monday - Friday: 8:30am to 5pm

Closed 12:30pm to 1:30pm

WAWONA

9am to 5pm



NPS Image

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH (THE CHAPEL)

Resident Minister: Pastor Brent Moore
209/372-4831 – www.YosemiteValleyChapel.org
www.YosemiteValleyChapelWeddings.org

SUNDAY - CHAPEL SERVICES:

9:15am – Year-round

11am – Memorial Day to Labor Day

*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
209/379-2100

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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

Hiking



Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias NPS Image



COVID-19
Coronavirus

PARK UPDATE

- If you are not fully vaccinated, wearing a mask is required in crowded outdoor spaces on federal land.
- Some trails may be closed or rerouted. Please comply with all posted signs.

Know Before You Go:

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



Choose Your Adventure

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

Yosemite Valley Day Hikes*

TRAIL / DESTINATION	STARTING POINT	DISTANCE / TIME	DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION
Bridalveil Fall - <i>CLOSED due to Construction</i>			
Lower Yosemite Fall	Across from Yosemite Valley Lodge	1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes	Easy
Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock	Camp 4, across from Yosemite Valley Lodge	2 miles round-trip, 2-3 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Upper Yosemite Fall	Same as above	7.2 miles round-trip, 6-8 hours	Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain
Mirror Lake (A seasonal lake)	East of North Pines Campground	2 miles round-trip, 1 hour	Easy
Vernal Fall Footbridge	Happy Isles	1.4 miles round-trip, 1-2 hours	Moderate, 400-foot gain
Top of Vernal Fall	Happy Isles	3 miles round-trip, 2-4 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Nevada Fall	Happy Isles	5 miles round-trip, 5-6 hours	Strenuous 1,900-foot gain
Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point	Southside Drive	4.8 miles one-way, 3-4 hours one-way	Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain
Valley Floor Loop	Lower Yosemite Fall Trailhead	13 miles full loop, 5-7 hours full loop	Moderate

WALKS/HIKES 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 explores Yosemite's history and interpretive signs explain how Yosemite was the inspiration for national parks across America and around the world.

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. Shuttles will not operate during the 2021 season, expect a two-mile, one-way walk to reach the grove. Bicycles and vehicles displaying a disability placard can drive on the Mariposa Grove Road to the Arrival Area only. *No drinking water available.*

HIKES 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. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road 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. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. 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. Be sure to 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. It's a three-mile round-trip hike (about three hours) into the grove. The trail drops down 1.5 miles making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. There is no potable water at the parking area or down in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trail is marked by a sign and a post labeled B-10.

HIKING IN TUOLUMNE MEADOWS

Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin and Soda Springs

Two trails, both flat and ¾ mile-long, lead to this historic area accessible only by walking. The Soda Springs are small, naturally carbonated springs that attract deer, birds and other wildlife. There is a toilet in the area.

There are many day hikes in this area. Stop by any visitor center for maps and ideas.

- *Thank you for staying on official trails to protect fragile meadow ecosystems.*
- *Dogs, bicycles, and strollers are only allowed on roads that are open to public vehicle traffic.*
- *There are no toilets on the trails. Day-hikers and backpackers must go at least 100 feet away from water, trail and camp areas; bury human waste six inches deep and pack out ALL trash.*

Permit Information

Camping, Hiking, and Wilderness Use

Wilderness Permits

Wilderness permits are required for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Following adaptive management guidelines and the need to protect the health and safety of our visitors and employees, there will be no first come first serve (FCFS) permits issued in the park for 2021. The FCFS quota will be available through a rolling lottery using the advanced reservation system. Please go to www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm to check trailhead availability and for more information on how to apply for these permits. Reservations can be made online at yosemite.org/yosemite-wilderness-permit-request-form. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. In November, all Wilderness Use Permits will transition to Recreation.gov for the 2022 season. For more information and details about this transition, visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/backpacking.htm.

Wilderness Centers (WC)

Open daily from 8am to 5pm. Under COVID modified operations, all wilderness centers offer permit reservation pick up and bear canister rentals only. *Reminder: no parking on Tioga Road and Glacier Point Road beginning Oct 15.*

YOSEMITE VALLEY WC - Located in Yosemite Village, between the post office and The Ansel Adams Gallery. The center will close for the season October 24. After October 24, permits for Yosemite Valley trailheads only will be available by self-registration in front of the Visitor Center. Bear canisters will be available for rent or to buy at the adjacent bookstore.

WAWONA WC - Located on the grounds of Wawona Hotel, Hill's Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park at the Wawona Store and follow the path up the hill. The center will close for the season October 15. After October 15, permits for Wawona trailheads only will be available by self-registration on the front porch. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

BIG OAK FLAT WC - Located inside the park entrance on Hwy 120W. The center will close for the season October 15. After October 15, permits for Tioga Road trailheads only will be available by self-registration on the porch. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

TUOLUMNE MEADOWS WC - Located south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadows Lodge. The center will close for the season October 15. After October 15, permits for Tioga Road trailheads only will be available by self-registration on the front porch. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

HETCH HETCHY WC - Located at the Hetch Hetchy entrance station. Beginning October 24, permits for the Hetch Hetchy area only will be available by self-registration at the kiosk. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

Half Dome Permits

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up for 2021, May 19 through October 11, *conditions permitting*. Day use permits will be released by daily lottery throughout the season. Applications for daily lotteries will be accepted 2 days prior to the desired hiking date between midnight and 4pm. To apply, visit Recreation.gov or call 877/444-6777. A non-refundable application fee applies to all submissions and a use fee applies to winning applicants. Finally, a daily quota of 75 Half Dome permits will be available to overnight users with an appropriate wilderness permit (use fee applies). These permits may be acquired through early reservations (50 per day) or the rolling lottery system (25 per day). Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area may descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit. More information is available at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm>. For backpackers more information is available at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdwildpermits.htm>.



View from a Lower Pines Campground campsite, Yosemite Valley. NPS Image

Camping Reservations

For the 2021 season, campgrounds that will be open are Upper, Lower and North Pines, Wawona, Bridalveil Creek and Tuolumne Meadows. Campground reservations are available up to five months in advance and are released on the 15th of each month at 7am Pacific time. Log onto the website or call as soon as possible as most campgrounds fill within a few minutes of the opening period. Camp 4 will be available via a one-day-in-advance lottery on recreation.gov, and each site will be assigned to only one party. For campground reservations, visit www.recreation.gov.

CAMPING PRICE INCREASE

On October 1, 2021, Yosemite National Park will raise camping fees based on a recently completed Comparability Study of surrounding campgrounds. Public engagement was conducted in June and July of this year, and prices will now be more commensurate with camping in the surrounding area. The additional revenue will help the park maintain and improve the campgrounds.

SITE TYPE	CURRENT FEE	NEW FEE
Reservation (e.g., Upper Pines)	\$26.00	\$36.00
First come, first served (e.g., White Wolf)	\$18.00	\$26.00
Primitive drive-in (e.g., Tamarack Flat)	\$12.00	\$20.00
Walk-in amenities (e.g., Camp 4)	\$6.00	\$10.00
Walk-in primitive (e.g., Backpacker camps)	\$6.00	\$8.00
Group	\$50.00	\$75.00
Stock	\$30.00	\$50.00
Double	\$36.00	\$60.00

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 in designated campsites.*

PARK UPDATE

- Camping during the 2021 season is by reservation only.
- Same day availability must be accessed via recreation.gov as there is no walk-up service.
- There is no first come, first served camping.
- Group sites are not available this year.

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 feet, 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.

Protecting yourself...



Yosemite Search and Rescue executing a rescue. NPS Image

Keep yourself safe while exploring your park

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

ENJOYING YOSEMITE

Autumn in Yosemite is an exciting time for outdoor enthusiasts. Lighting is gentle but colors are vibrant, temperatures are comfortable, and a gentle dusting of snow provides attractive accents to the rugged high Sierra Nevada. Rapid weather changes add to the excitement but also increases our need to prepare for weather extremes.

WEATHER

Comfortable daytime temperatures can drop with little warning. Unexpected storms can brew quickly, bringing wind, rain or snow. PREPARE for potential weather changes. To avoid hypothermia, dress in layers. Be able to add or reduce layers to stay comfortable.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Swift water is dangerous any time of year, even during low flow. Do not be deceived; Yosemite's streams have strong currents and are best enjoyed from the safety of the trail or other developed areas.

YOSEMITE'S TRAILS

Yosemite's 800 miles of trails pass through natural areas and endure all the forces of nature including flooding, fire, erosion, and slides. Trails may be damaged from weather and past fires. Snow can be present over higher elevation trails. Carry a good topo map and compass and know your location.

YOSEMITE'S ROADS

Yosemite's roads have hazards that you may not have in your home town, such as rock fall, distracted motorists, and abundant wildlife. Moreover, there are many sites to distract you. If you cannot devote 100% of

your attention to your driving, please pull completely off the road into designated pull-offs and parking areas. Buckle up! Park rangers enforce California's Motor Vehicle Code on park roads. Also, as we approach the winter months, be mindful of icy road conditions.

FOR ALL SEASONS

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

HANTAVIRUS INFORMATION

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

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

For more information visit: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm>.

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>.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Due to high fire danger and continued hot and dry weather, Yosemite National Park, is under fire restrictions. Campfires are allowed only in designated campgrounds and picnic areas. Portable stoves are permitted throughout the park. Smoking is permitted only within an enclosed vehicle, a building which allows smoking, a campground where wood fires are allowed, or a designated smoking area. Call 209/372-0200 or email yose_fire_info@nps.gov if you have question or wish to talk to a ranger

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!



...and Yosemite



Two black bears in a meadow. NPS Image

Keep Bears Wild

With warmer spring weather, bears emerge hungry from hibernation. Please, keep Yosemite’s black bears wild and alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

STORE YOUR FOOD PROPERLY

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



DRIVE THE SPEED LIMIT

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

IF YOU SEE A BEAR...

...scare it away or keep your distance. You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away: Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there are more than one person, stand together

to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear. If you see a bear anywhere else, consider yourself lucky—but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will be 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 (with windows closed) only during daylight hours. Do not store food in your car after dark: use a food locker. Remember to clear your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats.	Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!
Your Campsite or Tent Cabin	You must store all your food in food lockers—not in your tent or tent cabin. A food locker is available at each campsite and tent cabin. Food may be stored out of sight in hard-sided RVs with windows closed.	Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even check food lockers to see if they’re secured. Keep food lockers closed and latched at all times, even when you are in your campsite or tent cabin.
Picnic Areas & on the Trails	Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm’s reach. Don’t turn your back to your food.	Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert.
Backpacking in the Wilderness	Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite.	In Yosemite and the southern Sierra, bear canisters are the only effective and proven method of preventing bears from getting human food.

Yosemite 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 campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities
- Possessing or using marijuana, including medical marijuana
- Operating an unmanned aircraft system (“drone”)

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

E-BIKES

E-bikes with two or three wheels, fully operable pedals, and electric motors less than 750 watts (1 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.

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 compressing 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.



Hetch Hetchy - NPS Image

Chiura Obata's Yosemite:

Celebrating a Legacy of Art in Great Nature

Story by April Megumi Kunieda and Dustin Garrison



Chiura Obata, "Lake Basin in the High Sierra," YOSE 115341, Yosemite National Park. Reproduced with permission by the Estate of Chiura Obata.



A park visitor participates in one of several art lessons that were given by a diverse group of artists, during the Obata Art Weekend, held in Yosemite National Park this past August. NPS Image / Esther Weeks

Yosemite is renowned for sweeping landscapes and dizzying waterfalls. Visitors come from all over the world to bear witness to her granite icons: Half Dome, El Capitan, and North Dome. Perhaps these are the very reasons you are here in Yosemite now, but when was the last time you really looked at a single tree or even a flower? I mean REALLY looked up close and noticed the delicate details the eye usually misses. Maybe you peered deep into a golden flower and saw the stamens inside the petals. Maybe you saw a bee bouncing around the anthers that are heavy with boulders of pollen. The bee's pollen pouches overflowing with the yellowy powder. Whole new and extraordinary worlds blossom before your eyes from places you pass by everyday.

An artist's job is to look beyond the initial impressions and see the things many people pass over. They practice deep observation, translating what they discover into their art. American artist Chiura Obata was no exception to this ability to see deep into the landscape. Perhaps he was even exceptional in his ability to clearly see things all around him--society, culture, and community.

Obata is a well-known American landscape artist, especially influential in the California Bay Area and the Bay Area Watercolor School. He created a unique style, combining artistic elements from both the East and the West. Born in Okayama, Japan, in 1885, Obata started his formal training in art as a young child and gained national recognition while still in his teens. This inspired him to pursue his artistic dreams and led to his immigration to San Francisco in 1903. While hoping

to study art throughout the United States and Europe, the beauty of the California landscape, including Yosemite, struck a deep chord inside of him--calling him to remain here in the Golden State. In 1927, Obata spent the summer in Yosemite and the high Sierra, creating what he would call "...the greatest harvest for my whole life and future in painting." Many iconic pieces of Yosemite art sprouted from this visit to the park.

"Always go with nature, anywhere, any circumstance, with gratitude." - Chiura Obata

Obata's life contained much to be inspired by and learn from. He co-founded the East West Art Society to bridge the division between Asian American and Euro-American artistic communities. During the unjust imprisonment of Japanese Americans during WWII, Obata co-

founded art schools to help his community through this devastating time. And, he taught his students at UC Berkeley to form a deep connection to Dai-Shizen: Great Nature. Up until the end of his life, Obata stressed the importance of connecting with Great Nature. He believed this connection to be a light to those experiencing dark and difficult times.

As curators to the stories of Yosemite, it's the National Park Service's duty to tell the untold stories of Yosemite that are often overlooked. This is why we created the annual Obata Art Weekend to showcase Chiura Obata. Despite Yosemite's strong connections with many famous artists since it's protection in 1864, Obata is the only non-white artist famously associated with the park. When you consider that tens of millions of people have come to Yosemite, many of whom must have made art, why is Obata the only non-white artist whose story is known? How many Obatas have slipped through the cracks

and remain as stories lost to history? Each one that escapes from the light of history deprives Yosemite of an artistic vision that has a unique story that, in turn, resonates to a different audience, creating a diverse group of people, each with their own unique viewpoints and set of skills, who become advocates and protectors of Yosemite and her Great Nature.

This summer the National Park Service hosted the first ever Obata Art Weekend to celebrate art and diversity in Yosemite. The event was coordinated by Ranger April Megumi Kunieda who also gave the keynote program on Obata's life in Great Nature. Other ranger programs included nature walks that highlighted stories such as the history of Chinese American laborers in Yosemite, talks that discussed the Japanese American internment camps, and a panel discussion that brought forward some of the perspectives of female rangers of color working within the ranks of the National Park Service. Ranger Shelton Johnson interviewed Obata's granddaughter and family historian, Kimi Hill. Finally, the event centered around the art lessons given by a diverse group of artists. Hopefully these stories and acts of creation build the foundations that may allow every park visitor to feel like they belong in Yosemite. As you experience this place that inspires so many, please take the time this fall to connect deeply with Yosemite and her Great Nature. Try to observe what may lie hidden and listen to her untold stories. Lay down the roots to your own story in Yosemite that might, in time, sprout into a story that inspires your community to find Great Nature and love Yosemite.



Park Ranger April Megumi Kunieda gives a talk on Obata's life in Great Nature at the first annual Obata Art Weekend, held in Yosemite National Park this past August. Image by Carl Calhoun

Supporting Your Park

Providing for Yosemite's Future

Enhance the Visitor Experience

It takes a legion of people working together to protect this special park for you and future generations of visitors. You too can extend your connection to Yosemite well after you return home by getting involved with the organizations that partner to preserve Yosemite.

This publication was made possible by the Yosemite Park Partners listed on this page. Read more below or visit www.yosemitepartners.org to learn more about helping these organizations provide for the future of Yosemite National Park.



Half Dome, Christine White Loberg

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 life-long connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it. Find out more about our year-round programs for schools and summer programs for individual teens at www.naturebridge.org/yosemite.

Yosemite Conservancy



Yosemite Conservancy inspires people to support projects and programs that preserve Yosemite National Park and enrich the visitor experience for all. Thanks to generous donors, the Conservancy has provided over \$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) 434-1782
(415) 434-0745 fax
www.yosemite.org

NatureBridge

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

