



Encouraging Adventure And Defining Relaxation.

Things to do and see in Yosemite

SUGGESTIONS ACCORDING TO THE TIME YOU HAVE

A man reportedly visited the park and approached John Muir to inquire what he should see as he only had one day to visit the park. John replied, "Sit down and cry lad". I don't know what the man ended up seeing or doing, but one thing is for sure no matter how long you have in the park you will be able to see a little bit of one of the most amazing places on earth. And that is worth any time you will spend here.

The following are some suggestions on what to see and do given a certain amount of time.

ONE HOUR

Location: Yosemite Valley

1. Explore the Visitor center exhibits. Learn about Yosemite's geology, history, and resources
2. Tour the reconstructed Native American Village behind the visitor center. Experience Ahwahnechee life.
3. Walk along the self guided changing Yosemite nature trail. Begin trail outside visitor center.
4. Visit the fascinating Native American cultural museum. See Yosemite's extensive basket collection.
5. Walk to the base of the lower Yosemite Falls, best time of year is April-July, and October-November.
6. Ride the free shuttle bus around the east Valley with views of Half Dome and the Merced River.
7. Walk an easy trail to the base of Bridalveil Fall.
8. Enjoy Tunnel View on Highway 41. This is an awesome scenic view of the entire Yosemite Valley.

TWO HOURS

1. Talk with an interpretive park ranger. Check Yosemite guide for a program schedule.
2. Walk to the Happy Isles Trail head area. Enjoy the rushing Merced River.
3. Hike to the Vernal Falls foot bridge. Great views of the Vernal Falls along this riverside trail.
4. Walk to Mirror Lake/Meadow. Great views of Half Dome from it's base.
5. Hike to Columbia Point on the Upper Yosemite Falls trail. Spectacular views of the valley.
6. Drive around the west end of Yosemite Valley using your own car. Enjoy views of El Capitan, Yosemite Falls, and Bridalveil Falls.
7. Take a 2 hour commercial Valley floor tour.

TWO TO FOUR HOURS

1. Rent a bike and ride along 10 miles of paved bike trails. Bike rentals at the Yosemite Lodge and Half Dome Village.
2. Walk the trail from Lower Yosemite Fall to the Majestic Hotel, or continue on the Mirror lake/ meadow area.

MORE THEN 4 HOURS IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

1. Hike the Valley Loop Trail. You will see a lot of the valley attractions such as Sentinel Rock, El Capitan, Cathedral Rocks, Bridalveil Falls, and Half Dome.
2. Learn to rock climb with an expert. Contact the Yosemite Mountaineering School in Half Dome Village.
3. Hike the steep trail to the top of Yosemite Falls on the Upper Yosemite Fall Trail. Take in spectacular views of the Valley, Half Dome, and the Clark Range. Don't forget water and food, it is a challenging hike.
4. Hike beyond Vernal Falls foot bridge to the top of Nevada Falls. Enjoy these powerful falls as spring melts snow in the Merced River watershed.
5. Hike the Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point. You will have unparalleled views of the high Sierra. Trail is open seasonally.

MORE THEN FOUR HOURS OUTSIDE YOSEMITE VALLEY

A. TRAVELING NORTH ON THE BIG OAK FLAT ROAD (A.K.A., HIGHWAY 120)

1. Spend the day in Hetch Hetchy. From the Hetch Hetchy entrance station, drive to the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir. Stand on the dam and view the cliffs and waterfalls. Walk across the dam and through the tunnel and on toward Wapama Fall. During spring, wildflowers begin to cover the Hetch Hetchy area and many great hikes begin from here. As the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is an important source of drinking water for San Francisco, no swimming or boating is allowed. There is also a 35 foot vehicle length limit on the road.
2. Visit the Tuolumne Grove of giant sequoias near Crane Flat. The second largest grove of giant sequoias in Yosemite. The Tuolumne Grove is located at 6000 feet in elevation and is usually under snow until early to mid spring.

B. TRAVELING SOUTH ON THE WAWONA ROAD (A.K.A., HIGHWAY 41)

1. Visit Yosemite's pioneer days in Wawona. Walk through the famous covered bridge and the Pioneer Yosemite History Center.
2. Hike the trail to Chilnualna Falls in Wawona. Don't forget to bring water and food.
3. Visit the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. The famous grove of giant sequoias is home to the oldest giant Sequoia in Yosemite, the Grizzly Giant, approximately 2700 years old. (The grove is currently closed until fall 2017)

PLANING YOUR STAY IN DAYS

ONE DAY

1. Yosemite Valley, Hike to the base of Vernal Falls and to the Lower Yosemite Falls.
2. Drive to Glacier Point to overlook Yosemite Valley. Take the short hike to Sentential Dome or the Fissures from the tail head along Glacier Point Road. Or, take the hike to McGurk Meadow from the trail head on Glacier point road.
3. BONUS: If you have time drive to Mariposa Grove and walk up to the Grizzly Giant. But plan on coming back to see the whole grove.

TWO DAYS (ADD TO THE SUGGESTIONS FOR ONE DAY)

1. Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. See the Native American Museum, Art Museum, Ansel Adams Gallery.
2. Hike to Mirror Lake.
3. Rent a bike and take a ride around the Yosemite Valley.
4. Rent a river raft and raft the Merced River if the river is open.

CONTINUED: TWO DAYS (ADD TO THE SUGGESTIONS FOR ONE DAY)

5. Eat at one of the great restaurants on the valley such as the Mountain Room at the Yosemite Valley lodge, or the Majestic Hotel, A.K.A., The Ahwahnee Hotel.
6. Don't forget to star gaze! During the summer there are star parties at the Glacier Point. Astronomy groups will meet, give a lecture and open their amazing telescopes up for public viewing. (Check with ranger for events.)

THREE DAYS

1. Spend a day in Tuolumne Meadows. Only accessible in the summer as the road closes in the winter due to snow. In the summer it is cooler than the valley and far less crowded.
2. On your way stop at Olmstead Point for view of the back of Half Dome and Clouds Rest. Stop at Tanya Lake for a short hike. Continue on to the west end of Tuolumne Meadows and take a short hike to the top of Pothole Dome. If you walk around the meadow at Pothole Dome the trail will lead you back to the river and the beginning of a series of cascades and water falls behind the dome. It is worth hiking down into that amazing valley. And it is usually crowd free.
3. Continue into the meadows and drive to Lambert Dome for view of the meadows. Or hike out to the natural soda springs and nature center.

FOUR DAYS

1. Extend your trip to Mono Lake. Get fish tacos at the Mobil Gas station at the junction of highway 120/395. The gas station has the best little restaurant with literally world class food, go figure.
2. Hike out to Lyell Canyon from the meadows.
3. Go fishing, horse back riding, bike riding, rafting, golfing, or just find a quiet place to relax, reset, unwind, read a book or just watch the clouds from the bank of the Merced River, you earned it.

DRIVING TIMES

1. Yosemite Valley 20-30 minutes north of the lodge.
2. Glacier Point, 30 minutes east of the lodge.
3. Tuolumne Meadows, 90 minutes north east of lodge.
4. Hetch Hetchy, 90 minutes north east of lodge.
5. Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias, 45 minutes south of lodge. (Opens in fall of 2017)
6. Wawona, 25 minutes south of lodge.

ACTIVITIES

Activities in Yosemite often depend on weather and seasons. The Tioga Road and the Glacier Point Road close for winter, usually mid November through late May.

WINTER

Yosemite winter are magical. Nordic and alpine skiing at Badger Pass is just 6 miles from the Peregrine Lodge. Snowshoe or cross country ski right out your door. Ice skate in the valley. Enjoy chef's demonstrations and special dinners at the Majestic Hotel.

SPRING

Don't miss the redbud and poppies on highway 140 west of the park. Hites cove off the highway 140 for early wildflower displays and McGurk Meadow off the Glacier Point Road for more amazing wild flowers. Waterfalls are at their height and roaring in the valley and Hetch Hetchy, with it wonderful water falls and wildflowers is at its peak.

SUMMER

Lazy rafting, tubing or swimming in Yosemite Valley. Tuolumne Meadows and past to Gaylor Lakes above Tioga Pass. Fishing, horse back riding, bike riding, golf, rock climbing and star gazing.

FALL

Wonderful color changes in the trees. Dogwoods turn shades of red and salmon, maples go yellow and black, oaks pure gold. The crowds thin and the days are cool for hiking and relaxing.