

YOSEMITE ITINERARIES

ONE-DAY TOUR

The classic Yosemite National Park visit. Includes stops at the most popular sites in Yosemite Valley.

TWO-DAY TOUR

Includes Yosemite Valley high points and your choice of either a drive to the east end of the Park up into the Yosemite high country along Tioga Road (the highest pass in the Sierra Nevada) with a bonus hike to the big trees on your return (moderate). Or, take a trip to the big trees at the south end of the park with additional stops at the Yosemite Pioneer History Center, breathtaking Glacier Point and a bonus hike to the summit of Sentinel Dome (moderate).

THREE-DAY TOUR

Includes all of the tours previously mentioned... Yosemite Valley, Tioga Pass and Glacier Point. This is a complete tour of all Yosemite National Park's major attractions.

FOUR-DAY TOUR

For the visitor who wants to explore and enjoy Yosemite more fully, numerous other activities and options are available to fit any season or interest, from whitewater rafting down the wild and scenic Merced River, to skiing at Badger Pass Ski Area, to taking a full or half-day guided hike, wildlife field trip or fly fishing expedition. Yosemite Guides™, a guide service of adventurers and naturalists headed by knowledgeable Yosemite mountaineers, provides guided trips that leave from the Yosemite View Lodge in El Portal. Pick and choose your favorites, to customize a Yosemite vacation.

FIVE-DAY TOUR

There are many fun and interesting things to do and see outside Yosemite, too... so much, in fact, that you may want to do these, first! Ride a steam train into the forest; explore historic Gold Rush-era Mariposa County; ride your road bike to Hornitos or down the Merced River Canyon along some of the best cycling roads and trails in California. Back in Yosemite National Park, you can take a horseback trip, go ice skating in the shadow of dramatic Half Dome or learn the basics of rock climbing from one of the finest mountaineers in the United States.

LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES

From guided wildflower hikes, to guided snowshoe walks, the options to explore scenic Mariposa County and Yosemite National Park are limitless. Take a morning photo walk; hike from Glacier Point down to Yosemite Valley or up from Yosemite Valley to the top of Half Dome or beside Yosemite Falls. Whatever your time or inclination, let the tour professionals at Yosemite Motels customize a tour that will fit your group's special needs.

Contact Kevin Shelton at: Tel, (209) 742-7106; Fax, (209) 742-7189 Fax; or E-mail
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YOSEMITE ITINERARIES

ONE-DAY TOUR



Yosemite National Park, but if you only have a day, here are some highlights that are "must dos."

Long-time Yosemite naturalist Carl Sharsmith was once asked what he'd do if he only had a day to see Yosemite. "Madam," he replied, "I'd sit by the Merced River and cry."

Certainly, one can spend a lifetime – as Ranger Sharsmith did – exploring

1. First, buy a couple of rolls of film before you depart from your Yosemite Motel. Then drive to Yosemite Valley via State Route 140 or SR 41 (depending on whether you are traveling from Mariposa or Oakhurst).
2. At the east end of the Valley, stop at Tunnel View (it's on SR 41) for the classic picture-taking location with its panoramic view of the Valley (best at sunset or when storms break). $\frac{3}{4}$ hour.
3. Continue into the Valley, stopping at Bridalveil Fall for views of El Capitan and Bridalveil Fall. When you have arrived in the heart of the Valley, park your car at the nearest available day-use parking lot and ride the free Valley Shuttle Bus to the Visitor Center. $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.
4. After touring the Visitor Center, visit The Ansel Adams Gallery, next door, then re-board the Valley Shuttle Bus for a free trip around the Yosemite Valley floor. 1 hour.
5. Get off at Yosemite Falls for a short walk to the base of Yosemite Falls; at Photographer's Bridge for a picture of Half Dome reflected in the Merced River; and at Happy Isles to visit the nature center. 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ hours.
6. For lunch, dine at the elegant Ahwahnee hotel, have a more casual lunch in Yosemite Village or picnic in any of the Park's many scenic picnic areas. 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ hours.
7. After lunch, work off your appetite by walking or bicycling on the Yosemite Valley bike path (bike rentals are available at Yosemite Lodge and Curry Village). Other options are to hike to Mirror Lake from the Mirror Lake Shuttle Bus Stop or to Vernal Fall from the Happy Isles Shuttle Bus Stop. Both of these walks are about a mile in length, moderately uphill. For a less-strenuous option, take a guided, two-hour Yosemite Valley bus tour departing from Yosemite Lodge. This narrated tour includes descriptions of the Valley's famous landmarks and its history. 2 hours.
8. Depart Yosemite Valley with stops at El Capitan meadow to see rock climbers high up on the side of El Capitan (binoculars are helpful) and at Gates of the Valley, for a beautiful picture of El Capitan reflected in the river. 1 hour.
9. Upon your return, enjoy a late afternoon swim or well-deserved soak in a hot tub at your Yosemite Motel.



YOSEMITE ITINERARIES

TWO-DAY TOUR

Begin with the One-Day Tour. Add one of the following options on your second day:

TIOGA PASS OPTION

This itinerary begins at Tuolumne Meadows and travels west back toward your Yosemite Motel and SR 120 West, SR 140 and SR 41. If you prefer to depart on SR 120 East toward US 395, reverse the itinerary. Add one hour travel time, if starting in Oakhurst.

1. Begin Day Two by purchasing a picnic lunch, water and film at your Yosemite Motel (bring binoculars).
2. Drive into Yosemite National Park via SR 140 to SR 120. At Crane Flat, turn right onto the Tioga Road and drive to the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. Along the way, you will pass White Wolf, Olmstead Point and Tenaya Lake. 1 hour.
3. Numerous easy walks are available at Tuolumne Meadows. Some include opportunities to climb small granite domes. Also popular is wildlife viewing (big horn sheep, birds and golden mantled ground squirrel). Inquire at the Visitor Center about hikes and places to see wildlife. Big Horn Sheep often congregate near the Park's east entrance station, but ask before heading there as they migrate. 2 hours.
4. A favorite place to stop and enjoy a rest is the shoreline along Tenaya Lake. Rock climbers are often seen on cliffs at the east end of Tenaya Lake. Impressive views are seen from Olmstead Point, east of Tenaya Lake. 1-1/2 hours.
5. For a strenuous one-day hike, climb 11,000-foot Mt. Hoffman from May Lake. All day.
6. Optional two-hour, half-day and all-day Horseback rides are available at Tuolumne Meadows and White Wolf.

7. Stop at the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias to see the big trees before leaving the Park. 1 hour.

GLACIER POINT OPTION

This itinerary begins at the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias near the South



Entrance and travels toward

Yosemite Valley, SR 140 and SR 120. If you prefer to return via SR 41, reverse the itinerary.

1. Begin Day Two by purchasing a picnic lunch, water and film at your Yosemite motel (bring binoculars).
2. Drive into Yosemite National Park via SR 140 to SR 41. Drive past Wawona and the south entrance to the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. 1 hour.
3. Take the bus tour of the big trees or hike through the trees (moderate to strenuous). 1 hour.
4. Return to Wawona and stop at the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. Check the Yosemite Guide for scheduled programs. 1 hour. Option: play golf at Wawona Golf Course (advance reservations recommended) 6 hours.
5. Continue on SR 41 to the Glacier Point Road. Drive to Glacier Point. Enjoy breathtaking views from Glacier Point. 2 hours.
6. A short, moderate hike is to Sentinel Dome. 1/2 hour.
7. Then back to Yosemite Valley stopping once more at Tunnel View before leaving the Park. 1 hour.

YOSEMITE ITINERARIES

THREE-DAY TOUR

Begin with the One-Day Tour. Add both of the Two-day Tour options to complete the second and third days.

FOUR- AND FIVE-DAY TOURS

Add your choice of the following activities to a Three-Day Tour. *Items noted with an asterisk (*) depart from the Yosemite View Lodge in El Portal. ‡ denotes commissionable*

Spring/Summer/Fall:

River Rafting

- Two-hour Yosemite Valley float
- Half-day whitewater trip – El Portal to Briceburg, lunch provided‡
- All-day whitewater trip – El Portal to Lake McClure, lunch provided‡

Guided Hikes



- Merced Canyon Wildflower Hikes – moderate, half or all-day, lunch provided‡
 - Rim Hike – moderate, all-day, lunch provided‡
- High Country Trails – various abilities, all-day, lunch provided‡
- Sunset Walks – easy to moderate, short walks, 5-hours, dinner provided‡
- Full Moon Magic – easy to moderate, 5-hours, moonlight permitting‡

Rock climbing lessons (half-day and all-day)

Horseback rides

- Two-hour ride
- Half-day ride
- All-day ride

Birdwatching/Wildlife Viewing

- *Guided Walks, half-day, all-day, easy to moderate, binoculars provided‡
- Custom-guided Field Expeditions, half-day, all-day, various abilities, binoculars provided‡

Fly Fishing

- Half-day Guided Fishing Trip, fishing gear provided‡
- All-day Guided Fishing Trip, lunch and fishing gear provided‡
- Custom overnight and longer trips are available‡

Winter:

- Downhill skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing or cross-country skiing at Badger Pass. 6 to 8 hours.
- Ice Skating at Curry Village. 2 hours.
- Guided snowshoe walk, half day. ‡

All-Year

Historic Mariposa (All-day)

- California State Mining and Mineral Museum
- Mariposa County Court House
- Mariposa Museum and History Center
- Historic Mariposa, Coulterville and Hornitos



CALIFORNIA/YOSEMITE ITINERARIES



OVERNIGHT TOUR

Traveling to Yosemite and back in a day can be a tiresome event. This tour includes a night at a Yosemite Motel, breaking up a one-day trip and making it far less tiring.

The Overnight Tour can be added to any itinerary in which an afternoon departure and trip of not more than five hours to the next destination is planned.

1. Day One: depart San Francisco (4 hours), Sacramento (3.5 hours), Monterey (3.5 hours), Fresno (2 hours) or San Luis Obispo (4 hours) in the afternoon. Arrive at your Yosemite Motel in the evening, enjoy dinner by the Merced River, and soak in a spa and rest.
2. Day Two: after breakfast, purchase a couple of rolls of film. Then drive to Yosemite Valley via State Route 140 or SR 41 (depending on whether you are traveling from Mariposa or Oakhurst).
3. At the east end of the Valley, stop at Tunnel View (it's on SR 41) for the classic picture-taking location with its panoramic view of the Valley. $\frac{3}{4}$ hour.
4. Continue into the Valley, stopping at Bridalveil Fall for views of El Capitan and Bridalveil Fall. When you have arrived in the heart of the Valley, park your car at the

nearest available day-use parking lot and ride the free Valley Shuttle Bus to the Visitor Center. $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.

5. After touring the Visitor Center, visit The Ansel Adams Gallery, next door, then re-board the Valley Shuttle Bus for a free trip around the Yosemite Valley floor. 1 hour.
6. Get off at Yosemite Falls for a short walk to the base of Yosemite Falls; at Sentinel Bridge for a picture of Half Dome reflected in the Merced River; or at Happy Isles to visit the nature center. 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ hours.
7. For lunch, dine at the elegant Ahwahnee hotel, have a more casual lunch in Yosemite Village or picnic in any of the Park's many picnic areas. 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ hours.
8. After lunch (depending on how much time you need to get to your next destination), work off your appetite by walking or bicycling on the Yosemite Valley bike path (bike rentals are available at Yosemite Lodge and Curry Village). Other options are to hike to Mirror Lake from the Mirror Lake Shuttle Bus Stop or to Vernal Fall from the Happy Isles Shuttle Bus Stop. Both of these walks are about a mile in length, moderately uphill. For a less-strenuous option, take a guided, two-hour Yosemite Valley bus tour departing from Yosemite Lodge. This narrated tour includes descriptions of the Valley's famous landmarks and its history. 2 hours.
9. Depart Yosemite Valley with stops at El Capitan meadow to see rock climbers high up on the side of El Capitan (binoculars are helpful) and at Gates of the Valley, for a beautiful picture of El Capitan reflected in the river. 1 hour.



CALIFORNIA/YOSEMITE ITINERARIES

San Francisco & Yosemite (2 nights)

Spend a night and day in San Francisco, then a night and a day at Yosemite. Includes San Francisco and Yosemite Valley highlights. Returns to San Francisco.

San Francisco, Yosemite & Monterey (3 nights)

This tour begins in San Francisco. Tour San Francisco's famous sights the next day, then drive to Yosemite that afternoon. Tour Yosemite Valley, then on to Monterey. Spend the third night in Monterey and return to San Francisco the following afternoon (2.5 hours).

San Francisco, Wine Country, Gold country & Yosemite (4 nights)

Arrive in San Francisco. Spend the evening and next day in The City, then travel to California's wine country where you'll stay one night. Enjoy a morning balloon ride and a bit of wine tasting before traveling to Sacramento for your third night. Tour Old Sacramento and the state railroad museum before traveling south along Gold Country Hwys 49 and 120 to Yosemite. After a day in Yosemite, return to San Francisco.

Los Angeles, Solvang, Harst Castle, Coast Hghway 1, Monterey, Yosemite & San Francisco (5 to 6 nights)

Spend a night and the next morning in Los Angeles, then travel north to the Danish community of Solvang. Stay one night, then travel north to tour the Hearst Castle. Continue up scenic Highway 1 to Monterey for the night. Visit historic Monterey and its Cannery Row before traveling to Yosemite. Spend one to two nights at Yosemite, exploring the Valley, Glacier Point and the Big Trees, then on to San Francisco for your final night along the California coast.

Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Yosemite & San Francisco (7 nights)

Spend two nights in Los Angeles with options to visit Universal Studios Hollywood, museums or Disneyland, then on to Las Vegas where you'll stay two nights enjoying its famous shows, then travel through Death Valley National Park to Yosemite National Park. You'll travel across Tioga Pass to your Yosemite Motel where you'll stay two nights, seeing Glacier Point, the Giant Sequoia and Yosemite Valley. Your last night is spent in everyone's favorite city, San Francisco.



CALIFORNIA/YOSEMITE ITINERARIES

GOLD DISCOVERY TOUR



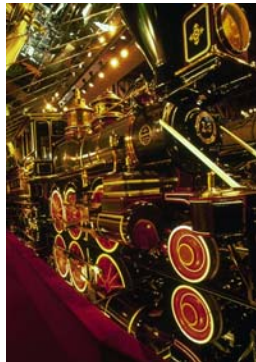
Travel the route of the '49ers as you tour famous towns of California's Gold Rush and Nevada's silver boom.

This example begins and ends in San Francisco, but it can also do so from

Sacramento or Reno.

The Gold Discovery Tour can be shortened or lengthened, as desired. In winter (Nov. through May), stops in Reno, Bodie and Virginia City are dropped, due to snow that closes Tioga Pass.

1. Spend your first night and in San Francisco, the gateway to this Gold Discovery Tour, just as it was for the original '49ers. Dine at Fisherman's Wharf, in Chinatown, downtown at Tadich's Grill or in Italian North Beach, just as the '49ers might have.
2. Day One: You are free to tour San Francisco's famous sights and ride its cable cars or take a half-day sightseeing tour (8 hours).
3. At 4 that afternoon, follow the trail of the '49ers to Sacramento (2 hours). Dine that evening in Old Sacramento.
4. Day Two: Visit the California



State Railroad Museum (2 hours) or California State Capitol (1 hour) before traveling along State Routes 16 and 49 (2 hours) through old-west Gold Rush towns to Murphy's where you'll visit Kautz Ironstone Vineyards and see one of the largest gold nuggets found in the gold country (2 hours). Rest that evening in Murphy's or Sonora.

5. Day Four: Visit Columbia State Historic Park and pan for gold (2 hours),
6. Continue on Hwy 49 to Hwy 120, following the golden trail into the Sierra Nevada and Yosemite National Park (2 hours). Stop at Yosemite Valley's famous Tunnel View before spending two nights at a Yosemite Motel.
7. Day Five: tour Yosemite Valley (see the Yosemite One-day Tour).



8. Day Six: depart your Yosemite Motel and travel through Yosemite National Park across Tioga Pass (2 hours), stopping in Lee Vining for lunch (1 hour). Continue on to Gold Rush town of Bodie (3 hours). This State Historic Park is an authentic old west ghost town, then travel north to Reno along the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada (3 hours).
9. Day Seven: Sleep in (you deserve it) and take a midday tour to Virginia City where the Nevada Silver Rush began (4 hours). Return to Reno for an evening show and its famous casinos.
10. Day Eight: Depart from Reno or travel back to Sacramento (2.5 hours) or San Francisco (5 hours).

CALIFORNIA/YOSEMITE ITINERARIES



CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE DISCOVERY TOURS

These Wildlife Discovery Tours reveal California's abundant wildlife adventures with featured stops at Yosemite National Park. The first begins and ends in Los Angeles; the second in San Francisco. The tours can be combined and extended in multiple ways.

Southern California (six nights, seven days)

1. Day One:
Spend your first night in Huntington Beach, south of Los Angeles International Airport. Visit one of the finest nature preserves in Southern California.



2. Day Two: travel by ferry to Catalina Island, home of California's official marine fish, the bright orange Garibaldi or enjoy a whale-watching cruise off the California coast.

3. Day Three: continue north through the Mojave Desert to Death Valley National Park or see wild horses at Ridgecrest.
4. Day Four: Tour Death Valley or the Eastern Sierra on your way to Yosemite National Park. Cross Tioga Pass through Bighorn Sheep country on the way to Yosemite Valley.



5. Day Five: Take a wildlife tour of Yosemite National Park with a Yosemite Guide.
6. Day Six: visit Stone's Lake national wildlife refuge on your way to San Francisco.
7. Day Seven: enjoy a day in San Francisco or return home.

Northern California (five nights, six days)

1. Day One: Arrive in San Francisco, visit California Sea Lions at Pier 39.
2. Day Two: travel to Yosemite National Park, stopping at the Stone's Lake National Wildlife Refuge.
3. Day Three: accompany a Yosemite Guide on a wildlife tour.
4. Day Four: travel to Monterey, visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium or take a whale watching cruise
5. Day Five: see California's redwoods as you ride on 1880s steam trains at the Roaring Camp Railroads, visit Año Nuevo Elephant Seal State Reserve as you travel up the scenic San Mateo County coast.
6. Day Six; enjoy a day in San Francisco or return home