

NPCATRAVEL



THE TRAVEL PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

JUNE 18-23, 2025

Yosemite

Hiking Adventure

MARVEL

AT SPECTACULAR GRANITE
ROCK CLIFFS AND WATERFALLS

EXPERIENCE

YOSEMITE'S LARGEST GIANT
SEQUOIA GROVE

JOURNEY

ALONG THE MOST SCENIC
ROAD THROUGH YOSEMITE
AND THE SIERRAS

Mariposa Grove Giant Sequoias



PARK HIGHLIGHTS

- Trek to the iconic **Vernal Falls** and **Nevada Falls**, two of Yosemite's crown jewels
- Drive along **Tioga Pass Road**, taking in mesmerizing views of Yosemite's alpine mountains and **Half Dome** in the distance
- Visit the **Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias** and the 2,700-year-old **Grizzly Giant**, one of the oldest trees on earth
- Hike to the summit of **Lembert Dome**, topping out at the 9,450-foot summit with amazing views of the **Cathedral Range** and the **Lyell Fork of the Tuolumne River**

NPCA EXCLUSIVES

- Take part in a **one-of-a-kind trip**, custom designed with NPCA's mission, work and partners at its heart
- With **NPCA partners and local experts** by your side, get a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to safeguard the dazzling views and diverse ecosystems of this otherworldly park
- Connect with the **Yosemite Conservancy** for a guided walking tour through the historic **Ahwahnee Village** to learn about the area's Native American heritage and pioneer past
- Tour the historic buildings that make up the **Yosemite History Center** and **Chinese Laundry Building** to uncover the stories of the park's often overlooked Chinese American residents and employees
- Meet with a **National Park Service forest ecologist** to learn about the park's fire ecology and monitoring program



FEATURED STAFF HOST BIO: MARK ROSE

Mark Rose is Program Manager for the Pacific Region's Sierra Nevada office. He provides support for NPCA's conservation efforts in Yosemite, Sequoia, and Kings Canyon National Parks, as well as in the surrounding Central Valley and Sierra Foothill communities.

Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias

Yosemite Hiking Adventure

AVAILABLE DATES: June 18-23, 2025 | **Min/Max:** 12/12

Length of Tour: 6 days/5 nights

NPCA Member Price: \$6,555 per person double occupancy; \$8,593 single occupancy

Deposit: Nonrefundable \$250 per person due at registration

Arrive/Depart: Fresno, California

Reservations: Please contact NPCA's National Parks Experiences Program at **1.800.628.7275** or email travel@npca.org.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

Moderate to Active



Activity Level: Travelers should be prepared for full-day adventures involving hiking, walking, standing, and some travel by vehicle. This tour includes a variety of hikes, some of which are challenging due to elevation gains and distances. Hikes during our journey are typically between 2.2 and 6 miles in length, with elevation gains reaching up to 2,900 feet. Most hikes take place at higher altitudes, with Lembert Dome summit at 9,450 feet above sea level. We highly recommend travelers bring hiking poles for additional support. All hikes are optional, and whenever possible, your guides will provide alternative options for shorter or less demanding routes. Hikes, walks, and vehicle transportation may be on rough terrain and can take multiple hours. The itinerary also includes opportunities for more relaxed activities such as visiting museums, exploring Yosemite Valley, and enjoying scenic drives. Any physical conditions requiring special attention, diet, or treatment should be reported when booking to determine what accommodations can be made.

Inclusions: All outlined accommodations, meals as noted in the itinerary (B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner), non-alcoholic beverages (one alcoholic beverage will be included for the welcome dinner and farewell dinner), all transportation as noted, standard gratuities, and entry fees for activities listed in the itinerary.

Exclusions: Airfare to arrival location and from departure location, additional accommodations or activities outside of program description, alcoholic beverages (one alcoholic beverage *will* be included for the welcome dinner and farewell dinner), optional guide gratuities and travel insurance.

Join us for an extraordinary week of hiking and exploration in Yosemite National Park! Our daily hikes will cover the gamut from popular, classic hikes to lesser-known gems. We'll spend time in Yosemite Valley and venture up into the high country of Tuolumne Meadows to visit waterfalls, high peaks, stunning viewpoints and giant Sequoia trees. Your guides will provide insight into Yosemite's geological

features and rich glacial history as well as Yosemite's wildlife, Indigenous history, and the significant contributions of Chinese American settlers to the park's development. Throughout this stunning journey, NPCA experts will be by your side to share insights into our ongoing efforts to address threats, including air pollution and climate change, to the preservation of Yosemite's majesty for generations to come.



Vernal Falls and Nevada Falls at Merced River, from Glacier Point

ITINERARY

DAY JUNE 18: Travel to Fresno

1 Welcome to Fresno – Gateway to Yosemite! Upon arrival at Fresno Yosemite International Airport, make your way to the hotel, located just a short walk from the airport. After you've had some time to settle in, meet your guides in the hotel lobby at 5 p.m. Together, head to the welcome dinner and meeting for introductions and discussion of your adventure! [*Wyndham Garden Fresno Yosemite Airport \(D\)*](#)

DAY JUNE 19: Yosemite Valley - Vernal and Nevada Falls

2 This morning, we'll make our way to our first hike at **Happy Isles Trailhead**. Our day begins with a leisurely 6-mile roundtrip hike to two of Yosemite's crown jewels, **Vernal Falls** and **Nevada Falls**, along the **John Muir** or the **Mist Trail**. While many of Yosemite hikes are centered on a final destination, this route features stunning views throughout. From Upper Yosemite Falls across the Valley, to the phenomenal granite heights of Liberty Cap, Grizzly Peak, the Panorama Cliffs, Sentinel Dome, Glacier Point and even Half Dome soaring above our heads, enjoy breathtaking views from start to finish. After lunch at a picturesque point overlooking the falls, we'll return to the valley floor and explore more of the scenic wonders of this fantastic place. Then, we'll head to our lodge to get checked in, cleaned up and meet for dinner. [*Tenaya Lodge \(B, L, D\)*](#)

DAY JUNE 20: Yosemite High Country - Lembert Dome/Gaylor Lakes

3 Today, we will rise early and drive up into Yosemite high country. We'll head east along **Tioga Pass Road**, stopping at **Olmsted Point** for a mesmerizing view of Yosemite's alpine mountains and Half Dome in the distance. Our morning trailhead in **Tuolumne Meadows** features a series of vast, alpine meadows with mountain streams snaking their way through the tall grass and abundant wildflowers. Here, we'll get an overview of the meadows from our 2-mile hike to the summit of **Lembert Dome**. This hike involves some scrambling before topping out at the 9,450-foot summit with its amazing views of the Cathedral Range and the Lyell Fork of the Tuolumne River. Afterwards, we'll head up to **Tioga Pass**, the highest elevation highway in California and through the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Our post-lunch 2-mile hike takes us up the steep trail to the **Gaylor Lakes Basin** just below the rugged Sierra Crest. We'll visit high alpine lakes and perhaps the abandoned **1870s Great Sierra Mine** before returning to our lodge and resting up before dinner. [*Tenaya Lodge \(B, L, D\)*](#)



Tuolumne Meadows along Tioga Pass

DAY JUNE 21: Glacier Point Road

4 Today, we'll drive **Glacier Point Road** and enjoy a 2.2-mile hike to **Sentinel Dome Taft Point** for some amazing views of Yosemite Valley. Upon return from our excursion, enjoy some free time to relax and explore the lodge's amenities. Tonight, we'll reconvene for another fantastic group dinner. *Tenaya Lodge (B, L, D)*

DAY JUNE 22: Yosemite Valley

5 Today, we'll give our legs a much-deserved break. After enjoying a hearty breakfast, we'll embark on an exploration of several Yosemite Valley museums and sites. Along the way, we'll be sure to stop at **Yosemite Valley Welcome Center, Yosemite Exploration Center, and Yosemite Museum**. Tonight, we'll celebrate our adventure and share memories over one last dinner at the famous **Ahwahnee Hotel**. *Tenaya Lodge (B, L, D)*

DAY JUNE 23: Yosemite National Park to

6 Fresno

Our last day in Yosemite takes us to some of the largest and most impressive trees on earth – the

Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. We'll hike the 2.5-mile lower loop, which provides for a wonderful morning of hiking. The many giant trees we'll visit include the **2,700-year-old Grizzly Giant** – the 25th largest tree on earth. The Park Service recently completed a restoration of the Grove and removed much of the man-made infrastructure, returning much of the natural peace and quiet back to this special place. Afterwards, we'll stop at Wawona Hotel for lunch and then the **Yosemite History Center**, home to a collection of historic buildings that pay homage to the people who moved here from around the world and shaped the park's development. In the summer, the **Chinese Laundry Building** (and acting superintendent's office!) opens its door to exhibits focused on the forgotten footsteps of the Chinese in Yosemite's history. At the end of our day, we'll bid farewell to our magnificent Yosemite adventure together before transferring you back to Fresno / Wyndham Garden Fresno Airport Yosemite for your flights home. *(B, L)*

Accommodations and activities are subject to change at any time due to unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond NPCA's control.



Cathedral Range



Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite Valley

Travel Insurance: NPCA strongly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. Information on a recommended comprehensive travel insurance coverage plan will be provided. However, travelers may purchase any travel insurance of their choosing provided it meets any applicable tour operator minimum requirements. NPCA's tour operator partners may require travel insurance for certain trips as a condition of participation; all travelers must adhere to any such requirements. Should you need assistance, NPCA recommends contacting Travel Insurance Services through USI Affinity at 1-800-937-1387 or at <http://my.travelinsure.com/npc>.

Traveler Responsibility: Travelers are responsible for selecting an NPCA trip consistent with their ability, fitness and overall health. Before joining a trip, all travelers must commit to adhering to the tour operator's Terms and Conditions; completing and submitting all required documentation provided by the tour operator; conducting themselves safely and appropriately; following instructions from the tour operator and NPCA staff; and adhering to the laws of the destination(s) visited on the trip. Additionally, travelers are expected to familiarize themselves with all pre-departure materials and ensure appropriate clothing and gear for the journey. Travelers should report any conditions or limitations requiring special attention, diet or treatment to the tour operator when booking to determine what accommodations can be made.

Trip Cancellation Policy: Written cancellations must be received by Intrepid's sales office for a cancellation to be valid.

Cancellation charges will be as follows:

121+ days prior to departure	February 18, 2025	119-0 days prior to departure
<i>Deposit is nonrefundable</i>	<i>Final payment is due</i>	<i>No refund</i>

TRAVEL SAFELY WITH NPCA

NPCA is committed to ensuring the well-being and safety of our travelers. NPCA's tour operator partners institute emergency policies and procedures and any specific measures, such as health screenings, as necessary and appropriate, for each trip departure.



Why Travel with NPCA?

Our goal is to offer premium itineraries in educational travel in the places we know best: America's national parks.

NPCA has worked for over 100 years to protect places of unparalleled natural wonder, historical significance and cultural value. Now we want you to experience them firsthand. Our curated itineraries are crafted to showcase the very best of our national parks and NPCA's collaborative endeavors to protect them. Join us for an unforgettable adventure.

EXPERTISE

Embark on extraordinary adventures with our knowledgeable staff who represent a wide and diverse range of backgrounds. With expertise spanning environmental conservation, cultural heritage, wildlife biology and more, NPCA staff bring a wealth of experience to each journey. Delve into engaging discussions and gain unique insight into the issues that shape our parks, including land preservation, wildlife protection, climate change and Indigenous perspectives.

STEWARDSHIP

When you choose to travel with NPCA, you're not just embarking on an incredible journey — you're making a meaningful impact. We are proud to share that a portion of every trip's fees directly supports NPCA's vital work. Your choice to travel with us helps protect and preserve our national parks for generations to come.

CONNECTIONS

Our curated itineraries offer more than just sightseeing. With NPCA, you'll delve into the cultural and natural history of each destination, guided by passionate experts who bring these stories to life. Engage with park rangers, NPCA partners and local community members as they share their invaluable insights into the challenges and triumphs of park preservation. Leave with a deeper understanding of the critical role we all play in the future of our parks.

RESPONSIBILITY

Embracing the principles of responsible travel, NPCA prioritizes minimizing our environmental footprint while maximizing our contributions to local communities. Partnering with like-minded tour operators, we source locally whenever possible, abide by Leave No Trace principles, and emphasize wildlife protection, responsible waste management and the respect of local cultures.

SMALL GROUPS

Escape the crowds and embrace the advantages of small-group travel, where personal connections and tailored experiences take center stage. The intimate size of our trips enables you to forge meaningful connections with like-minded travelers and readily engage with trip staff, partners and guides. Recognizing that each traveler is unique, our small group sizes also allow us to provide personalized attention and accommodate individual needs and interests.

Tuolumne River

NPCA is the only independent, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advocacy on behalf of the National Park System. Over 70% of our funding comes from donations from individuals like you. NPCA trips are an exclusive NPCA member benefit. One traveler per group must be an active NPCA member to participate in an NPCA trip. An annual membership starts at \$15 per person. Please make dues payable to NPCA by check or credit card at [npca.org](https://www.npca.org).