



WELCOME

Mariposa's foothills are full of working ranches. Photo: Charles Phillips

Nestled among monuments of rock and plunging waterfalls, among sun-ripened vineyards, vast western cattle ranches, and historic Gold Rush towns, sits an oasis unlike any other. Mariposa County. Home to Yosemite National Park. Just outside the park, Mariposa County wears its legendary Western and Gold Rush history on its time-woven flannel sleeve. From recreational activities (like camping or whitewater rafting) to museum-hopping, to prospecting for the best dining or shopping in quaint small towns, Mariposa County offers a wide range of only-in-California experiences and is the perfect four-season base camp for your Yosemite visit.

With each visit to Yosemite Mariposa County comes a welcome surprise — a new trail to hike, a new lake to swim, a new road to explore and the friendliest people in California.

FOUR SEASONS, FOUR MOODS

Yosemite Mariposa County reveals extraordinary and unique beauty in each season. With so many moods to explore, the best time to visit Yosemite Mariposa County depends wholly on your passions and pursuits.

WINTER

After the first snowfall, Yosemite awe & beauty takes on a whole new meaning. The white winter veil transform the park into pure wonder. Snow also changes Yosemite into the ultimate winter playground. Ski, snowboard, and snowshoe at Badger Pass Ski Area, California's first and most family-friendly ski area. Enjoy other traditional winter mountain activities such as ice skating!

SPRING

Yosemite is best known for jaw-dropping iconic granite cliffs and majestic waterfalls, which are at their peak in spring. With fields of wildflowers, spring is the perfect time to hike more than 800 miles (1,287 km) of trails, bike the flat valley paths, or take on the "Wild and Scenic" Merced River on half-day or full-day rafting excursions. Beat the summer heat and plan your spring adventure.

SUMMER

Summer is the most visited season in Yosemite. Melting mountain snow offers access to the higher elevation areas of Yosemite and the Western Sierra, including Glacier Point, Taft Point, Tioga Pass, and Tenaya Lake. Plan to spend a day at the Gold Rush towns of Mariposa or Coulterville to experience pioneer history at one of the many museums.

AUTUMN

Warm days and cool nights make autumn a favorite season. Daytime temperatures and beautiful fall foliage, make this the perfect season for hiking and photography. The cool evenings invite outdoor dining and stargazing beside a toasty campfire. This time of the year means fewer visitors and many of the same activities of summer, including rock climbing, hiking, and biking, without the summer heat and traffic.



Yosemite Falls in Spring

Travel to Yosemite Park Entrance	Miles(km)	Time
Fresno	62 (100)	1 hour
Mariposa	32 (51)	45 minutes
Monterey	187 (301)	3 hours
Los Angeles	318 (512)	4.75 hours
Las Vegas	342 (550)	5.5 hours
San Francisco	197 (317)	3.5 hours
San Jose	183 (295)	3.5 hours

YOSEMITE
—MARIPOSA—
COUNTY

Yosemite Mariposa County
Tourism Bureau
Visitor Inquiries: 1 (866) 425-3366

**AWAKEN
YOUR
SENSE OF
ADVENTURE**

YOSEMITE
—MARIPOSA—
COUNTY

YOSEMITE.COM





STAY WITH US!

Tenaya at Yosemite is perfect for families and couples, offering rooms in the lodge, as well as cottages and cabins.



ITINERARIES

Tunnel View is always awe-inspiring.



THINGS TO DO

Capture Half Dome from Glacier Point at sunrise.

Book Your Stay

Allow us to introduce you to the best lodging inside Yosemite National Park, as well as uncover options just beyond the park border. There are many unique accommodations in Yosemite Mariposa County at large. You'll discover a wide array of Yosemite hotels, motels, and vacation rentals in Yosemite and surrounding areas. Stay in a cozy bed and breakfast near Yosemite, or get back to nature in one of the area's many campgrounds – at a range of prices that makes Yosemite and Mariposa lodging affordable for any budget.

PRO TIP: 80% of lodging is outside Yosemite National Park boundaries.

Hotels & Motels

Yosemite Mariposa County boasts hotels & motels to suit every itinerary and budget. Yosemite National Park stays such as The Ahwahnee, waterfall-adjacent Yosemite Valley Lodge and historic Wawona Hotel offer up-close-and-personal nature access. Nearby Cold Country gems such as the boutique River Rock Inn and the charming Mariposa Hotel offer lodging steeped in Mariposa County history. The Four Diamond resort Tenaya at Yosemite provides exceptional year-round lodging and activities.



From cozy cabins to luxury homes, the Redwoods in Yosemite offers vacation rentals inside the park gates.

Cabins and Vacation Rentals

Whether it's in-Park stays booked through The Redwoods in Yosemite or Yosemite's Scenic Wonders, a tent cabin in Curry Village, or an even larger selection of vacation rentals in surrounding Mariposa County, there are hundreds of options.

You'll find privacy and a range of amenities from well-appointed kitchens (for controlling your own culinary destiny) and space for groups, not to mention friendly owners who'll share local recommendations. Perfect for travel with family and friends, larger homes provide the ability to share both costs and time together.

Bed and Breakfasts

These all-season refuges feature such perks as parlors for gathering with like-minded travelers, private decks, and distinctive settings such as ranches and farms. B&B's such as Blackberry Inn Yosemite and Yosemite Plaisance include helpful hosts who can answer your questions about the area. What else do Yosemite Mariposa B&B's offer? A delicious breakfast, of course!

Camping and Campgrounds

When people think of Yosemite, they often think of camping. With its one-of-a-kind natural splendor, there's no better place to sit back and count the infinite Sierra Nevada stars. While camping inside Yosemite National Park is popular, reservations can be difficult. The solution? Camping options outside the park in beautiful Mariposa County, where campsites are abundant and much easier to secure.



The Ahwahnee is known for its history, elegance and hospitality.

TWO AMAZING NIGHTS & THREE GLORIOUS DAYS IN YOSEMITE MARIPOSA COUNTY

Day One: Arrival Day

Arrive in Mariposa and explore the three incredible museums (Mariposa County Museum & History Center, Yosemite Climbing Museum, and California State Mining & Mineral Museum) that give the town one of the best small-town culture scenes in the United States. Take an unforgettable leap over Yosemite National Park with Skydive Yosemite or a scenic air tour.



Sierra Cider's tasting room includes views of the apple orchard and fun bar games.

Shop on Main Street Mariposa, where you'll find boutiques and plenty of local artisans. Enjoy tasting menus at the local cidery or brewery then savor the cuisine at any one of the fantastic, independently-owned restaurants, before winding down in your lodging of choice, be it a hotel, vacation rental, bed and breakfast or campsite.

Other alternative historic towns include Coulterville, Fish Camp and Buck Meadows.



Mariposa County Museum and History Center is full of great artifacts from the Gold Rush and local Native American culture.

Day Two: Yosemite Valley and Glacier Point

Time to explore the park! Drive up the "All Weather" Highway 140 for scenic views of the meandering Merced River or the high elevation routes of Highways 41 or 120. Once in the park, walk to Lower Yosemite Falls to wonder at the one of the tallest waterfalls in North America. Head to Tunnel View for the view photographer Ansel Adams made famous, featuring El Capitan, Half Dome and Bridalveil Fall.

PRO TIP: Get in early and stay late.

With more than 800 miles (1,287 km) of trails to explore, why not go for a hike? Vernal Falls flows nearly year-round and makes for a great day hike up the Mist Trail. Or take it easy by enjoying a gentle raft ride down the Merced River, taking in the panoramic views of the Valley.

PRO TIP: Consider picnic areas for parking and exploring.

Stop by The Ahwahnee for an excellent meal in the grand dining room, or just enjoy the elegance of the setting with a casual lunch at the bar.

The perfect finish for a visit to the park is a drive up to Glacier Point for a stunning sunset that will leave you breathless and leave a lifelong impression.

Day Three: Mariposa Grove / Tioga Pass / Departure

Take the scenic drive-up Highway 41 up to the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias.

In Wawona you can visit the Yosemite History Center complete with an authentic stagecoach ride over a covered bridge. Enjoy a meal at the Wawona Hotel or take a sack lunch on a hike to Chilnualna Falls.

If you have time to explore and want to go on an easy-paced, winding route, then head up Highway 49 to experience the historic town of Coulterville.

Heading east to Las Vegas? Take the scenic Highway 120 East high-elevation road, Tioga Pass, open from May to November.

View more itineraries:



YOSEMITE MARIPOSA COUNTY IS A LAND OF ADVENTURE!

From fishing, hiking, gold panning, arts and culture to spas, shopping, dining and more, there is no shortage of options. And it doesn't matter whether you visit in winter, spring, summer or fall. In Yosemite Valley and beyond, there's always the perfect activity for every type of visitor.

View a full list of Things to Do:



Transportation

Park your car and ride YARTS into the park. This public transit service runs year-round on Highway 140 through Mariposa and the paid fare includes your Yosemite entrance fees. You can also ride YARTS during the summer on Highways 41, 395 and 120.



Flying to Yosemite Mariposa County? Fresno Yosemite International Airport is the nearest airport to Yosemite Mariposa County. San Francisco airports are a half-day drive.

Once in Yosemite Valley take the free hybrid shuttle service or rent a bike to explore at your own pace. Travel that is green, convenient, and easy!

Tours

One of the best ways to immerse yourself in Yosemite Mariposa County is on a guided tour. Let someone else do the



Take a summer hike to May Lake in the High Sierra.

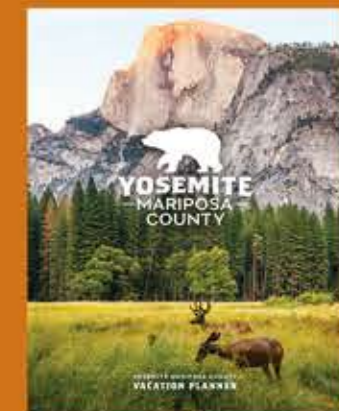
driving and focus on the magnificent nature around you! Whatever fits your time and budget, you'll find a wide variety of Yosemite tours offered by numerous vendors throughout Yosemite Mariposa County.

Marvel at the breathtaking beauty and learn about the history, wildlife and geology of Yosemite Valley's most famous sights. Take in the majesty of Half Dome on a Yosemite guided tour, or book a Grand Tour that includes the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. Reignite your passion for hiking or photography ... whatever re-energizes your soul, Yosemite Mariposa County has it in abundance.

View more tour information:



View our Vacation Planner and so much more on Yosemite.com.



The vacation planner shares in-depth information and maps for the eight regions of Mariposa County, including four within Yosemite National Park.