



# Yosemite National Park Quick Escape

## TRIP DETAILS

4 days • Yosemite National Park • Activity Level: Moderate

## HIGHLIGHTS

- *Discover the iconic Yosemite Valley, and see its most celebrated sites: Yosemite Falls, Half Dome, El Capitan, the Nelder Grove and Glacier Point!*
- *Enjoy three days of moderate hiking with your expert guides who can offer insight on everything from the geological history of the valley to the legacy left by park legend John Muir*
- *Start and end your days in one of the park's comfortable and well-appointed lodges, and feast on hearty and delicious meals*

## OVERVIEW

Deep in the heart of the Sierra Nevada Mountains sits the wildly scenic, glacially sculpted Yosemite Valley. Nicknamed “The Incomparable Valley” for its impressive natural landscapes of waterfalls, high alpine meadows, granite walls and



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giant sequoias, it is no wonder that Yosemite is considered one of the crown jewels of the National Park Service. On this relaxed yet action-paced four-day hiking adventure, we'll make sure you see it all: Half Dome, El Capitan, all three of North America's tallest waterfalls, the "Wild and Scenic" Merced River and the otherworldly Nelder Grove.

MTS has been leading trips in the Sierra for decades, and our professional mountaineer guides have the experience and know-how to navigate you through the park, explain the extensive flora and fauna, and recount entertaining stories of Yosemite legend John Muir. Each day, you'll set out on moderate and scenic hikes both on- and off-trail, and each night, you'll bask in a comfortable lodge located right in the park. Enriching museums will offer you deeper insight into what you're learning on the trail, and a classic campfire dinner is the icing on the cake for any Yosemite experience. After four days in this alpine paradise, you may even be tempted to try our John Muir Trail—an ultimate adventure that will put you front and center with the higher altitudes of the Sierra Nevada Range!

### TRIP DATES

Jun 08 - 11, 2017 **Special North Face Departure**

Jul 20 - 23, 2017

Sep 14 - 17, 2017

May 25 - 28, 2018

Jun 21 - 24, 2018

Jul 18 - 21, 2018

Sep 20 - 23, 2018

### AWARDS & ACCOLADES



### Day 1: Arrive in Fresno and transfer to Yosemite Valley

Welcome to Fresno, California, the heart of the agricultural San Joaquin Valley! Your MTS guide will meet you outside of baggage claim and drive you 2.5 hours along scenic mountain roads to Yosemite Valley, stopping along the way to soak in the many scenic vistas. After checking into our lodge (directly in the park), we'll gather for a fun welcome dinner, overlooking the thundering Yosemite Falls. After dinner, there is an optional walk out to the Merced River to view Half Dome at sunset.

*Lunch, Dinner / Yosemite Valley Lodge - Yosemite Valley*

### Day 2: Yosemite Falls

Today, we'll turn our sights to the western end of Yosemite Valley, beginning with a stop at the towering Yosemite



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Falls. At 2,425', this is the tallest waterfall in North America and 7th tallest in the world. From there, our trail takes us along the meandering "Wild and Scenic" Merced River, through pine forests and across wildflower-strewn meadows to the massive granite wall of El Capitan. From the meadow, we'll enjoy stunning views and learn about geology and the park's history of rock climbing; we may even spot rock climbers scaling the face of the cliff. It takes the average party 3.5 days of living on the wall to climb it bottom to top! Leaving the meadow, we'll hike to the base of "El Cap." Putting your hands on the smooth granite and staring up 3,000ft to the top really puts the massive scale of Yosemite into perspective. This afternoon, we'll return to the meadow and shuttle back to Yosemite Village, where we'll have time to enjoy the Ansel Adams Gallery, tour the Miwok Museum, explore the Visitor's Center, and visit gift shops. After taking some time to refresh ourselves at the lodge, we'll head over to the Pines Campground for a dinner experience that harkens back to Yosemite's early days as a camping destination. Your guides will prepare a delicious, hearty, multi-course meal while you and your fellow travelers can relax and tell stories around the campfire. (Hiking details: 4-5 miles on relatively flat terrain)

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner / Yosemite Valley Lodge - Yosemite Valley*

### Day 3: Glacier Point

After fueling up with another hearty breakfast, we'll hop aboard the park shuttle to reach the south rim of Yosemite Valley. Emerging from the mid-mountain fir forests, we'll step out to the iconic Glacier Point. From this vantage, we'll be able to see deep into the valley 2,700 feet below and have panoramic views that include Half Dome, El Capitan, Yosemite Falls, and the Clark Range. Here, it's easy to see why the Sierra Nevada is known as "the range of light." From Glacier Point, we'll spend the day hiking back down into Yosemite Valley along the wildly scenic Panorama and Mist Trails. We'll enjoy a picnic lunch atop Nevada Falls before heading down the famous Mist Trail for an exhilarating look at Vernal Falls. The Mist Trail lives up to its name at this point on the hike, and you'll surely want to bring your rain jacket along! After lunch along the Merced River, we'll make our way back to Yosemite Valley with plenty of time to clean up and regroup at our lodge before a farewell dinner at the Mountain Room. (Hiking details: 8.5 miles on well-groomed trails; we recommend using trekking poles for the 60 granite stairs on the downhill section of the Mist Trail)

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner / Yosemite Valley Lodge - Yosemite Valley*

### Day 4: Nelder Grove and return to Fresno

After loading up our shuttle and checking out of the hotel, we set off for the Nelder Grove of Giant Sequoias. Mornings here in the mid-mountain forests (5,500') are quite pleasant and we'll keep our eyes out for cheerful Winter Wren and charismatic Chickarees as we walk among the towering trees. Giant Sequoias are the largest living things on the planet and we'll make our way to one of the most awe-inspiring of them all, the Bullbuck Tree. After our grove hike we'll enjoy a picnic lunch before boarding our shuttle together one final. We'll arrive to Fresno in the



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early afternoon, plan flights no earlier than 3pm. 3 miles of hiking on well groomed trails with some short ups/downs.

*Breakfast, Lunch*

### LAND COSTS

#### 2017 Price

\$2,000 (4-12 members)

\$550 Single Supplement

#### 2018 Price

\$2,295 (4-12 members)

\$650 Single Supplement

#### **What's Included**

- Expert leadership
- Accommodations as noted in the itinerary (or similar)
- Meals as noted in the itinerary
- Airport transfers as noted in the itinerary
- Sightseeing as noted in the itinerary
- Ground transportation
- Additional guides where necessary
- Entrance fees and permits, unless noted separately in costs
- Basic medical and evacuation protection, purchased by Mountain Travel Sobek on your behalf

#### **What's Not Included**

- International airfare
- Meals not noted in the itinerary
- Extra airport transfers
- Airport taxes (varies by location)
- Excess baggage charges
- Cost of medical immunizations
- Optional tipping to leader, guides and local staff
- Items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.)
- Travel protection other than the basic medical and evacuation protection noted above (we recommend that you



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purchase the Optional Travel Protection Plan offered by Mountain Travel Sobek, which enhances the coverages under the Basic Medical and Evacuation Plan and helps protect your travel investment should you need to cancel for a reason covered by the Optional Travel Protection Plan)

For Terms & Conditions, please [click here](http://www.mtsobek.com/terms) <http://www.mtsobek.com/terms>

### THE NEXT STEP

#### Ready to go? Signing up is easy!

Just call us at 1-888-MTSOBEK (687-6235) and reserve your spot! You can also book a reservation online at our website ([www.mtsobek.com](http://www.mtsobek.com)). If you prefer to use a travel agent, he or she can book your trip at no extra cost and provide other helpful assistance.

#### Then Leave the Rest to Us

Before you go, we provide you with extensive pre-departure information, including clothing recommendations, suggested reading lists, up-to-date health advice prepared by our consulting physician (an expert in wilderness medicine), and other details.

#### Why Mountain Travel Sobek is Your First Choice for Adventure

Mountain Travel Sobek is the pioneer in active adventure travel. No other adventure travel company can lay claim to that title. We were the first to take Americans trekking in Nepal, raft the wild rivers of Africa, and open up many previously inaccessible corners of the world to curious travelers. We set the standard for adventure travel and have a strong reputation for excellence that we do everything we can to maintain. Since we are the leading adventure company, we have a lot to live up to, so we make sure we provide safe, quality trips and the best customer service to our passengers.

#### References

Don't take our word for how great our trips are. We'll be happy to provide you with references of satisfied past travelers.

#### Questions?

Feel free to call us at 1-888-MTSOBEK (687-6235) if you still have any questions or concerns. We're here to help you. You can also check out our website at [www.mtsobek.com](http://www.mtsobek.com).



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### Note on Itinerary

Although we will do our best to adhere to the itinerary schedule as listed, it is subject to change. Please read the Limitation of Liability and Booking Conditions in the four-page Participant Information Form. You can find all this information on our website at [www.mtsobek.com/terms](http://www.mtsobek.com/terms) and the form itself at [www.mtsobek.com/pdf/participant\\_info.pdf](http://www.mtsobek.com/pdf/participant_info.pdf).

### Terms & Conditions

Once you have made a deposit for a trip, you agree to be bound by all our terms and conditions including the Limitation of Liability Clause. The full Terms and Conditions can be found at <http://www.mtsobek.com/terms> or call 1-888-MTSOBEK (687-6235) for a copy. These are partial conditions. Your participation is contingent on your signature on the full list of terms specified in the four-page Participant Information Form (<https://app.box.com/s/1ohgwwe8spomdo0t9bqs>). Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to the Terms and Conditions, to any literature concerning this trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration in San Francisco, California, according to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. Such proceedings will be governed by substantive California law (but not procedural law) without regard to the California Arbitration Act.

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