



NEW!

Good Times Travel

YOSEMITE, SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON

Two-Night Stays Inside Yosemite & Sequoia National Parks, *Sugar Pine Railroad*, Basque Meal, Local Guides

October 25-29, 2024 – 5 Day Tour

Tour Highlights

- ◆ Enjoy a two-night stay at the *Wuksachi Lodge* – the signature lodge inside Sequoia National Park, this striking stone-and-cedar mountain lodge at 7,200 feet in elevation is surrounded by a giant sequoia forest and soaring peaks
- ◆ Extensive sightseeing with a local guide in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks featuring the largest trees on Earth and a canyon John Muir claimed was “a rival to Yosemite.”
- ◆ Stay two nights at the recently remodeled *Yosemite Valley Lodge*, located in the heart of the Yosemite Valley and within walking distance of Yosemite Falls and Yosemite Village
- ◆ Join a Yosemite Conservancy guide in the Yosemite Valley, featuring a grand collection of picturesque waterfalls, peaceful meadows and historic structures amongst a pine forest and unique, glacier-shaped cliffs and rock faces
- ◆ Ride the rails through the Sierra Nevada Forest’s majestic tall trees while aboard an historic, narrow gauge steam train
- ◆ Enjoy a traditional, family-style Basque meal with wine in Fresno



Wuksachi Lodge in Sequoia National Park



Kings Canyon National Park



Yosemite Valley



Yosemite Valley Lodge
Courtesy Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Board

Tour Inclusions

- ◆ 4 Nights deluxe hotel accommodations
- ◆ 6 Meals – 2 lunches, 4 breakfasts
- ◆ Services of a professional GTT tour director
- ◆ Comprehensive sightseeing with local guides
- ◆ Admissions per the itinerary
- ◆ Transportation aboard a deluxe motorcoach
- ◆ Luggage handling throughout the tour

Tour Prices

Double Occupancy: \$1,799 per person
Single Occupancy (no roommate): Add \$800

Itinerary

Welcome aboard this unique, five-day journey to discover three majestic national parks at a delightful time in California’s scenic Sierra Nevada. Imagine a place where even the earliest creations of Mother Nature have been perfectly preserved...where the scenery can only be described as larger than life...in a setting so peaceful, everyday worries become virtually extinct. While all of America’s national parks are scenic wonders, in these three parks the panoramas go widescreen! Giant, cinnamon-hued trees soaring skyward, granite domes and jagged peaks on every horizon, roaring rivers, waterfalls and alpine meadows unfurling before your feet, and sheer cliffs like no other! We’ll explore these three parks with local guides while enjoying rustic lodge elegance during two, two-night stays within both Sequoia and Yosemite National Parks.

Day 1 – Welcome to Sequoia National Park!

From our departure points this morning we’ll travel aboard a deluxe motorcoach into California’s fertile Central Valley. Following a morning rest stop and a stop for lunch on our own, we’ll continue into the scenic **Sierra Nevada**. In the late afternoon we’ll enter **Sequoia National Park** and continue to the mountain retreat we’ll call home for the next two nights, **Wuksachi Lodge**. Sequoia’s signature hotel, this striking stone-and-cedar lodge is located at 7,200 feet in elevation and is surrounded by a giant sequoia forest and soaring Sierra peaks in the heart of Sequoia National Park. Your deluxe lodge room features natural décor highlighting native granite rock, oak, cedar and hickory woods. Enjoy dinner at leisure at the lodge. *Note the lodge rooms are located in separate buildings 100-200 yards from the main lodge building/restaurant.*

Reservations



www.goodtimestravel.com

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California Seller of Travel License #: 2018390-40

Accommodations

- ◆ Nights 1-2 **Wuksachi Lodge**
Sequoia National Park, CA
- ◆ Nights 3-4 **Yosemite Valley Lodge**
Yosemite National Park, CA

Departure/Return Information

Join this tour from one of our convenient departure points available in these cities:

- ◆Fountain Valley ◆Laguna Hills ◆Long Beach
- Approximate Departure Time: 7-9 a.m.
Approximate Return Time: 6-8 p.m.

Payment Information

- ◆ Full payment due at time of booking
- ◆ Payment may be made by mailing a check to the above address or making a credit card payment at www.goodtimestravel.com

Cancellation/Travel Protection

A travel protection policy (which includes cancellation protection and other benefits) is highly recommended and available through a third-party. A travel protection brochure will be provided with your payment receipt and invoice. Regardless of the reason, cancellations, credits and transfers of paid bookings require us to retain an administrative fee (ranging from \$50-\$500 depending on the date of cancellation) in addition to all non-recoverable fees paid to our tour suppliers on your behalf. Those guests who have purchased travel protection and must cancel for a covered reason, will be reimbursed by the travel protection company the balance of any non-refunded or credited monies (minus the premium itself). Visit www.goodtimestravel.com or see our tour catalog for our full cancellation policy and other terms and conditions.

Adjustments to the Itinerary

While we make every effort to operate our tours as advertised, should we be forced to adjust the itinerary prior to departure or while on tour, these changes will be communicated to you and only done when absolutely necessary.

Tour Pace & Activity Level



Visit our website for further explanation of what each of these designations means to assist you in determining which tour is right for you based on your physical abilities and the pacing you prefer.

Itinerary

Day 2 – Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks

Following an included breakfast at the lodge, we'll board the motorcoach for a full-day of sightseeing in **Sequoia** and **Kings Canyon National Parks** with a local guide. The landscape here testifies to nature's size, beauty, and diversity – huge mountains, rugged foothills, deep canyons, and the world's largest trees! The **Kings Canyon Visitor Center** and its informative displays about the trinity of treasures will provide the perfect introduction to the Park. We'll follow **Kings Canyon Scenic Byway**, the iconic road carved into granite that descends into Kings Canyon, traversing an extraordinary cross section of geographical terrain and provides progressively more stunning views of Kings Canyon. As we make our way to the glaciated canyon floor, you'll find yourself suddenly feeling quite small and understand why John Muir once called this valley "a rival to Yosemite." One of the deepest canyons in North America, Kings Canyon offers a massive panorama of scenery that is above and beyond. This afternoon we'll take a leisurely stroll through the **General Grant Grove** along the paved **General Grant Tree Trail**. Protected by the federal government as part of General Grant National Park in 1890 – one of our nation's first national parks – this grove later became part of Kings Canyon National Park. We'll stand in awe as we walk amongst this mixed conifer and sequoia forest with giant sequoia trees that are 3,000 years old with trunks weighing 1,400 tons! The grove's most famous and largest tree is **The General Grant Tree**. The third largest tree in the world at nearly 50,000 cubic feet, this goliath measures 107 feet in circumference – that's the same width as three lanes of traffic! The tree is almost 300 feet tall and has the largest base diameter of any tree in the world at more than 40 feet! Named in 1867 for General and President Ulysses S. Grant, The General Grant Tree was honored as a living national shrine to Americans lost during wars by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. We return to the *Wuksachi Lodge* late this afternoon with the balance of the evening at leisure. (Breakfast)

Day 3 – Sugar Pine Railroad, Yosemite National Park

Following an included breakfast, we'll travel north through the Sierra Nevada foothills, stopping in Fish Camp at the *Yosemite Mountain Sugar Pine Railroad*. Following an included barbecue lunch, we'll enjoy a memorable ride through the Sierra Nevada Forest's majestic tall trees aboard this historic, three-foot narrow gauge steam train. The open cars allow for stunning views and a trip seemingly back in time as we are transported along the same route that logging trains used. This afternoon we'll arrive in **Yosemite National Park**, home to a grand collection of picturesque waterfalls, peaceful meadows and historic structures amongst a pine forest and unique, glacier-shaped cliffs and rock faces. At **Tunnel View** we'll get our first view of the spectacular Yosemite Valley including one of the west's most photographed landmarks, **Half Dome**. Opposite Half Dome, towering 3,593 feet above the Yosemite Valley floor, **El Capitan** is the undisputed king of the granite monoliths – in fact it's Earth's largest single piece of granite! We continue to our destination: **Yosemite Valley**, the prized jewel of Yosemite National Park and what John Muir called the "Incomparable Valley." This eight-mile long, geologic marvel is a 4,000-foot deep trough lined by towering cliffs and glacially sculpted, polished rock. We'll enjoy a two-night stay in the heart of the Yosemite Valley at the **Yosemite Valley Lodge**, the legendary lodge that is within walking distance of both Yosemite Falls and Yosemite Village. The lodge features an outdoor swimming pool, multiple dining options and a lounge. The recently renovated rooms feature large windows, a television and wi-fi. Enjoy the balance of the afternoon at leisure with dinner on your own at the *Yosemite Valley Lodge*. The lodge's iconic Mountain Room restaurant offers striking views of the 2,424-foot-high Yosemite Falls. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 4 – Yosemite Valley

Following an included breakfast, we'll be joined by a **Yosemite Conservancy guide** as we explore the Yosemite Valley. We'll see a number of picturesque and historic buildings, none more famous or spectacular than the **Ahwahnee Hotel**, an architectural gem combining grandness and intimacy. Take a leisurely walk to the base of **Yosemite Falls**, impressive not so much in water volume but the sheer height from which it falls. Split into three sections, the cascade plunges 2,425 feet and is the highest waterfall in North America and fifth highest on the planet! Enjoy the afternoon at leisure with the Yosemite Valley Shuttle providing hop-off-hop-on transportation throughout the Yosemite Valley including **Yosemite Village** where you'll find the **Yosemite Valley Visitor Center**, **The Ansel Adams Gallery** of photographic art, the Village Store and a variety of historic buildings. (Breakfast)

Day 5 – Basque Meal, Journey Home

After an included breakfast, we'll begin our journey home as we descend out of the Sierra Nevada to Fresno where we'll enjoy an included, traditional **Basque meal** at a locals' favorite. This family-style lunch includes fresh bread, homemade soup, a variety of sides, fried chicken, charbroiled lamb chops, ice cream and house wine and is a memorable finale to a spectacular journey. This afternoon we continue south returning to our drop-off points this evening with many fond memories of our time in California's spectacular Sierra Nevada. (Breakfast, Lunch)