

Entrance Reservations

ON THIS PAGE NAVIGATION

A reservation is required to drive into *or through* Yosemite National Park on some days from April 13 through October 27, 2024, for those driving into the park between 5 am and 4 pm as follows:

- April 13 through June 30: A reservation is required from 5 am to 4 pm on Saturdays, Sundays, and on holidays (May 27 and June 19). A reservation is not required on other days.
- July 1 through August 16: A reservation is required from 5 am to 4 pm every day.
- August 17 through October 27: A reservation is required from 5 am to 4 pm on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays (September 2 and October 14). A reservation is not required on other days.

Driving through the park also requires a reservation if entering between 5 am and 4 pm (on days a reservation is required).

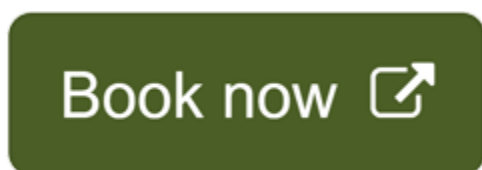
If you are planning to visit after peak hours, please do not arrive before 4 pm; vehicles blocking roads will be cited. Camping or sleeping in a vehicle is only allowed in a campsite you have reserved via Recreation.gov.

The temporary reservation system will help manage congestion and provide a quality visitor experience. We are experimenting with a few different ideas for this summer as we work on the [Visitor Access Management Plan](#).

[Información en español.](#)



Ways to Get a Reservation



Reservations are valid for three consecutive days. You'll have the option to choose a full day or half day reservation. Half-day reservations are only valid for arrivals after noon.

Peak-Hours Reservations

Most reservations for all dates from April 13 through October 27, 2024, were released on Recreation.gov on January 5, 2024.

Additional reservations are available seven days before the arrival date (e.g., make a reservation for an arrival date of October 27 on October 20) at 8 am Pacific time

on [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov). Reservations available one week in advance are a combination of reservations valid for full days or reservations valid for arrival only in the afternoon on the first day.

Reservations are available each day at 8 am Pacific time. Reservations are taken almost immediately. Be sure to have a [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) account and be logged in and ready to get a reservation promptly at 8 am Pacific time.

The non-refundable reservation fee is \$2 (this does not include the \$35-per-car park entrance fee).

Each user can make two reservations for each three-day period. For example, if a user makes a reservation for a Friday arrival (valid Friday through Sunday), the user won't be able to make a third reservation for an arrival that Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. The reservation holder must be in the arriving vehicle and show photo ID at the entrance station.

Peak-hours reservations are valid for three consecutive days (including arrival date).

If you don't have computer access, you can call 877/444-6777 to make a reservation.

In-Park Camping, Lodging, or Vacation Rentals

If you have a reservation for one of the following, you do not need an additional reservation. You still pay the \$35-per-car entrance fee upon arrival (credit card only) unless you have an annual or lifetime pass. Your reservation for in-park lodging or camping, a Half Dome permit, or a wilderness permit allows you to enter the park 24 hours per day for the duration of your reservation or for three consecutive days (whichever is longer).

- A [Yosemite National Park campground](#)
- [Curry Village](#), [Housekeeping Camp](#), [Yosemite Valley Lodge](#), [The Ahwahnee](#), [Wawona Hotel](#), [White Wolf Lodge](#), [Tuolumne Meadows Lodge](#), and [High Sierra Camps](#) (Glen Aulin, May Lake, and Sunrise)
- Private lodging or vacation rental in [Wawona](#), [Yosemite West](#), or [Foresta](#)
- Yosemite [wilderness permit reservation](#) or [Half Dome permit](#)

Reservations for lodging or vacation rentals *outside* the park and in communities other than these three do not provide access to Yosemite.

Wilderness or Half Dome Permits

If you have a [wilderness permit](#) reservation (for backpacking) or [Half Dome permit](#), you do not need an additional reservation. You still pay the \$35/car entrance fee upon arrival (credit card only) unless you have an annual or lifetime pass. Your reservation allows you to enter the park 24 hours per day for the duration of your reservation or for three days (whichever is longer).

If you have a wilderness permit, you may enter the park a day before the date on your wilderness permit to stay at a backpackers campground.

A Half Dome permit does not allow you to camp in Yosemite but does provide access to the park for three consecutive days starting on the date the Half Dome permit is valid.

Regional Transit or Tour Groups

If you enter the park on a [Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System](#) (YARTS) bus or with an authorized tour group, you do not need an additional reservation or permit.

Visiting without a Reservation

If you don't have a reservation, you can still visit Yosemite. You must arrive at an entrance station (other than Hetch Hetchy) before 5 am or after 4 pm. If you are planning to visit after peak hours, please do not arrive before 4 pm; vehicles blocking roads will be cited.

If you enter during non-peak hours on your first day, you must still enter before 5 am or after 4 pm on subsequent days, even if you have an entrance station receipt.

You can visit the Hetch Hetchy area of the park when it is open (sunrise to sunset) without a reservation. However, long delays are possible once parking fills.

Frequently Asked Questions about the Peak-Hours+ Reservation System

Information is subject to change. This will be updated as soon as any information changes.

Entrance Reservations Basics

Do I need a reservation to visit Yosemite?

Yes, if you are driving a vehicle into or through Yosemite National Park between 5 am and 4 pm (peak hours) during the dates listed above, you must have one of the following with matching photo ID:

- Reservation for a [Yosemite National Park campground](#) (Upper Pines, Lower Pines, North Pines, Camp 4, Wawona, Bridalveil Creek, Hodgdon Meadow, Crane Flat, White Wolf, or Porcupine Flat. Reservations for campgrounds outside the park do not provide access to Yosemite during peak hours.)
- Reservation for [Curry Village](#), [Housekeeping Camp](#), [Yosemite Valley Lodge](#), [The Ahwahnee](#), [Wawona Hotel](#), [White Wolf Lodge](#), [Tuolumne Meadows Lodge](#), and [High Sierra Camps](#) (Glen Aulin, May Lake, and Sunrise)
- Private lodging or vacation rental in [Wawona, Yosemite West, or Foresta](#) (Reservations for lodging or vacation rentals outside the park and in communities other than these three do not provide access to Yosemite during peak hours.)
- Yosemite [wilderness permit reservation](#)
- A [Half Dome permit](#)
- Commercial use authorization
- Special use permit

Driving through the park without stopping requires a reservation if entering the park between 5 am and 4 pm (on days a reservation is required).

Payment of the vehicle [entrance fee](#), which is valid for three days, is required. For those with an overnight reservation or Half Dome permit, the fee is valid for three days or the duration of the overnight reservation (whichever is longer), starting with the first day of the reservation. Credit cards are the only form of payment accepted for entrance fees. If you enter the park via [YARTS](#) (Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System) buses, bicycle, on foot, or on horseback, or if you only visit Hetch Hetchy, you do not need a peak-hours reservation to enter the park. Park entrance fees still apply.

What types of reservations are available?

There are two kinds of peak-hours reservations: those valid for the full day and those valid for arrival in the afternoon on the first day. (Anyone with or without a

reservation can also arrive before 5 am or after 4 pm.) Peak-hours reservations are valid for up to three consecutive days.

Do I need a reservation to drive into the park on weekdays?

If you are visiting anytime from July 1 through August 16, you need a reservation to drive into the park every day of the week if entering the park between 5 am and 4 pm.

If you are visiting anytime from April 13 through June 30 or August 17 through October 31, you need a reservation to drive into the park on every Saturday and Sunday, and every holiday (May 27, June 19, September 2, and October 14) when entering the park between 5 am and 4 pm. A reservation is required on these days even if your first day in the park is on a non-reservation day. If you are driving into the park on non-holiday weekdays in April, May, or June, or after August 17, you do not need a reservation on each of those non-holiday weekdays.

Do I need a reservation to drive into the park during non-peak hours (before 5 am or after 4 pm)?

No. If you enter Yosemite before 5 am or after 4 pm, you do not need a reservation. You can remain in the park during peak hours if you arrive during these non-peak hours (however, staying overnight requires a reservation). If you are planning to arrive after 4 pm, please do not arrive at a park entrance station until after 4 pm. Do not try to arrive early. Vehicles blocking roads will be cited.

To arrive at the nearest Yosemite entrance at 4 pm, leave the following towns at or after these times:

- Mariposa (Hwy 140): 3:15 pm (or El Portal at 3:55 pm)
- Oakhurst (Hwy 41): 3:30 pm (or Fish Camp at 3:55 pm)
- Groveland (Hwy 120 from the west): 3:25 pm (or Buck Meadows at 3:40 pm)
- Lee Vining (Hwy 120 from the east): 3:40 pm

The \$35/car entrance fee applies and is valid for three consecutive days for visiting Hetch Hetchy and for driving into other areas of the park during non-peak hours. However, paying the entrance fee does not allow entry during peak hours without a reservation.

Camping or sleeping in a vehicle is only allowed in a campsite you have reserved via Recreation.gov.

If I arrive without a reservation and pay the entrance fee to enter the park during non-peak hours, can I arrive during peak hours on the same or following days?

No. The \$35-per-car entrance fee is valid for three consecutive days for visiting Hetch Hetchy and driving into all other areas of the park only during non-peak hours. Paying the entrance fee does not allow entry during peak hours (5 am to 4 pm) if you don't have a valid reservation.

If I arrive without a reservation and pay the entrance fee on a day when reservations aren't required (in spring or fall), can I drive into the park on either of the following two days if a reservation is required?

No. You must enter the park before 5 am or after 4 pm on days when a reservation is required. If you don't have a reservation, the \$35-per-car entrance fee is valid for three consecutive days for visiting Hetch Hetchy and driving into other areas of the park only during non-peak hours. Paying the entrance fee does not allow entry during peak hours (5 am to 4 pm) if you don't have a valid reservation.

When can I enter the park if I have an afternoon-only reservation?

These reservations are valid to drive into the park at noon or later on the first day. You can also drive into the park before 5 am or after 4 pm, or at any time on days two and three of the reservation.

I want to drive through the park without stopping. Do I need a peak-hours reservation? How can you limit access to a state highway?

Yes, a peak-hours reservation is required to drive into the park between 5 am and 4 pm on days when a reservation is required, even if you're just passing through. If you enter the park before 5 am or after 4 pm, you can continue driving through the park (or stay and recreate) during peak hours on the day you enter the park.

Tioga Road, which is part of the continuation of Highway 120 through the park, is not and has never been a state highway within park boundaries. Originally built as a private mining road, philanthropists purchased the road and donated it to the National Park Service, which has improved and maintained the road ever since. The National Park Service is solely responsible for providing road maintenance, as well as law enforcement and emergency services, along all roads within Yosemite National Park.

I have an annual or lifetime pass that gives me free entrance. Do I need a reservation to drive in during peak hours?

Yes. These passes cover the park entrance fee. A \$2 non-refundable reservation fee still applies to peak-hours reservations.

Do I need a reservation to drive into the park if I have a reservation for a campground or lodging accommodation located outside of Yosemite National Park?

Yes. You must have a peak-hours reservation to drive a vehicle into the park unless you arrive before 5 am or after 4 pm.

Do I need a reservation if I live locally?

Yes. Residents living in the local area need a reservation to visit Yosemite. However, local residents who have an [eligible local zip code on their driver license](#) may pass through Yosemite National Park (without stopping) for non-recreational purposes without paying an entrance fee or needing a reservation. A driver license with an eligible zip code is the only acceptable proof of residence.

Making and Using a Reservation

How and when do I get a peak-hours reservation to visit Yosemite?

Peak-hours reservations are only available via [Recreation.gov](#). Reservations go extremely quickly. Establish a Recreation.gov account first, log in to your account, and obtain a reservation beginning at 8 am Pacific daylight time on the appropriate day. Reservations are available during two periods:

- On January 5 for all arrival dates (April 13–October 27); these remain available until all are taken.
- Seven days in advance (e.g., make a reservation for an arrival date of October 27 on October 20).

Peak-hours reservations are valid for three consecutive days (including arrival date).

Each user can make two reservations for each three-day period. For example, if a user makes a reservation for a Friday arrival (valid Friday through Sunday), the user won't be able to make a third reservation for an arrival that Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. The reservation holder must be in the arriving vehicle and show photo ID at the entrance station.

If you don't have computer access, you can call 877/444-6777 to make a reservation.

On Recreation.gov what does it mean that reservations are not yet released?

If you try to find availability on Recreation.gov and it says reservations are “not yet released,” it means no more reservations are available until seven days in advance, promptly at 8 am PDT.

How much does a peak-hours reservation cost?

A peak-hours reservation costs \$2 and is non-refundable. This is collected by Recreation.gov and is separate from the park [entrance fee](#). You need one reservation per vehicle. Each reservation is valid for everyone inside the vehicle.

How long is my peak-hours reservation valid?

Your peak-hours reservation is valid for up to three consecutive days starting on the first day of the reservation (but is no longer valid or necessary on the second or third day if those are days when a reservation isn't required). For example, if you get a reservation for a Saturday, it's valid for Saturday through Monday (if Monday is a day when a reservation is required).

Your reservation for in-park lodging or camping, a Half Dome permit, or a wilderness permit reservation allows you to enter the park 24 hours per day for the duration of your reservation or for three days (whichever is longer).

If you have a reservation for lodging or camping outside the park for more than three days, you will need more than one peak-hours reservation and will pay the entrance fee for each three-day period you visit Yosemite. If you will be visiting more than three days, you may want to purchase an annual pass. Or, if you already paid the entrance fee, you can use the receipt(s) toward an annual pass. For \$70, you can purchase a Yosemite annual pass (covers entrance fees at Yosemite for 12 months). For \$80, you can purchase an interagency America the Beautiful annual pass (valid for entrance fees at all national parks).

Why is the entrance fee valid for three days instead of seven days?

In response to public and gateway community feedback, we temporarily shortened the period the entrance fee is valid during the reservation periods in 2021 and 2022 to increase the number of reservations available, ultimately providing more opportunities for people to visit. This change was successful, so we are temporarily applying this timeframe again during the 2024 peak-hours+ reservation season.

Almost 90% of visitors not staying overnight inside the park visit for three or fewer consecutive days. The three-day reservation also allows peak-hours reservation holders to first enter the park on any day during their reservation (with the

seven-day reservation in 2020, reservation holders were required to arrive on the first day).

If you will be visiting more than three days, you may want to purchase an annual pass. Or, if you already paid the entrance fee, you can use the receipt(s) toward an annual pass. For \$70, you can purchase a Yosemite annual pass (covers entrance fees at Yosemite for 12 months). For \$80, you can purchase an interagency annual pass (valid for entrance fees at all national parks).

Annual pass holders still need a peak-hours reservation to drive into the park during peak hours, on days when reservations are required, from April 13 through October 27, 2024.

I have a reservation inside the park that is longer than three days. Do I need to pay the entrance fee twice?

No. If you have a reservation for one of the following, your entrance fee is valid for the duration of your reservation or three days (whichever is longer):

- A [Yosemite National Park campground](#)
- Reservation for [Curry Village](#), [Housekeeping Camp](#), [Yosemite Valley Lodge](#), [The Ahwahnee](#), [Wawona Hotel](#), [White Wolf Lodge](#), [Tuolumne Meadows Lodge](#), or [High Sierra Camps](#) (Glen Aulin, May Lake, and Sunrise)
- Private lodging or vacation rental in [Wawona, Yosemite West, or Foresta](#)
- Yosemite [wilderness permit](#)

Does the reservation system eliminate delays at entrance stations?

No. Even with reservations, you may encounter delays at entrance stations. If you have a daily reservation, try to arrive before 8 am to avoid the longest delays.

If you don't have a reservation, you must arrive after 4 pm or before 5 am. If you don't have a reservation, please wait until after 4 pm to drive to the entrance station. If you have an afternoon reservation, please wait until after noon to drive to the entrance station.

Do I have to arrive on the first day of my peak-hours reservation?

No. One of the benefits of the three-day reservation is that you don't have to arrive on the first day of your reservation. However, your peak-hours reservation is still valid for up to the three consecutive days starting with the arrival date on the reservation (i.e., if you arrive on the third day of your reservation, you can only use it for that day).

What if my group is arriving in more than one vehicle during peak hours?

A peak-hours reservation is required for each vehicle (or motorcycle) that enters the park during peak hours. The person whose name is on the reservation must be in the vehicle with a valid photo ID.

Groups with lodging or camping reservations, wilderness permits, and Half Dome permits may arrive in more than one vehicle. An occupant in each vehicle must provide a copy or photo of the photo ID belonging to the person who made the reservation (as well as a copy of the reservation) to be permitted to enter.

Can I give or sell my reservation to someone else?

No. Reservations and entrance fees are non-transferable. Peak-hours reservations are only valid for the person who made the reservation and for the vehicle transporting that person.

Visiting Without a Reservation

A reservation is required to drive into or through the park during peak hours (5 am to 4 pm) on days a reservation is required. A reservation is not required to drive into or through the park before 5 am or after 4 pm on days when a reservation is required. If you enter through an entrance station before or after peak hours, you can remain in the park during peak hours. However, don't arrive at Yosemite without a reservation if you plan to stay overnight inside the park. Camping or sleeping in a vehicle is only allowed in a campsite you have reserved via Recreation.gov.

If you are planning to arrive after 4 pm, please do not arrive at a park entrance station until after 4 pm. Do not try to arrive early. Vehicles blocking roads will be cited.

Are same-day reservations available? Can I wait at the entrance station and enter the park if people with reservations don't show up?

Reservations are not available at entrance stations. You can check [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) before you arrive to the park to see if any reservations have become available due to cancellation.

How can I bide my time while waiting until my noon reservation is valid or until the reservation requirement ends at 4 pm?

Spend time in the beautiful national forests and enticing gateway communities just outside of Yosemite!

Highway 41 Corridor

- [Sierra National Forest](#)
- [Mariposa County](#) (Fish Camp)
- [Madera County](#) (Oakhurst and Bass Lake)

Highway 140 Corridor

- [Sierra National Forest](#)
- [Mariposa County](#)

Highway 120 (west of Yosemite) Corridor

- [Stanislaus National Forest](#)
- [Mariposa County](#) (Buck Meadows and Coulterville)
- [Tuolumne County](#) (Groveland and Sonora)

Highway 120 (east of Yosemite) Corridor

- [Devils Postpile National Monument](#)
- [Inyo National Forest](#)
- [Mono County](#) ([Lee Vining](#), [June Lake](#), [Mammoth Lakes](#))

If you are planning to arrive after 4 pm, please do not arrive at a park entrance station until after 4 pm. Do not try to arrive early. Vehicles blocking roads will be cited.

To arrive at the nearest Yosemite entrance at 4 pm, leave the following towns at or after these times:

- Mariposa (Hwy 140): 3:15 pm (or El Portal at 3:55 pm)
- Oakhurst (Hwy 41): 3:30 pm (or Fish Camp at 3:55 pm)
- Groveland (Hwy 120 from the west): 3:25 pm (or Buck Meadows at 3:40 pm)
- Lee Vining (Hwy 120 from the east): 3:40 pm=

Can I enter the park overnight?

Yes. Yosemite National Park is open 24 hours per day. A reservation is only required to drive into the park between 5 am and 4 pm.

A campground reservation is required to camp or sleep in a vehicle anywhere in the park.

Reservation Management

Why was this pilot selected for 2024?

- This pilot tests a more flexible reservation system requiring reservations only on weekends (Saturday and Sunday) and holidays during the early and late busy seasons. It also increases the number of reservations available, fully testing a reservation system during a time without pandemic restrictions or major construction.
- In evaluating management strategies to pilot in summer 2024, park managers considered many different factors including public comments, opportunities to improve visitor experiences, opportunities to protect resources, opportunities to test new ideas, as well as which strategies were operationally feasible to implement by this spring.
- This pilot provides an opportunity to test a peak-hours system under regularly-anticipated peak-season volumes while also spreading out entries across the day. Requiring reservations only on weekends during the early and late part of the summer allows the park to test whether a less restrictive system could address issues during those times of year.
- This pilot also provides an opportunity to test other smaller modifications like hours of the reservation system, afternoon entries, bypass lanes to address queues, higher vehicle volumes than under previous tests, and better messaging. All these changes have the potential to improve resource condition and visitor experiences.

How much is the park limiting vehicle access to Yosemite under the peak-hours+ reservation system?

The number of peak-hours reservations is determined by the number of parking spaces in Yosemite Valley coupled with roadway capacity in the Valley, and correlated with entrance station data from previous years to estimate number of vehicles going to other areas of the park. Aside from the Tioga Road, all highways that enter Yosemite National Park meet in Yosemite Valley.

How many vehicles with peak-hours reservations are we projecting to have in the park each day?

Spring/Tioga Road closed (weekends/holidays): 2,880

Summer/Tioga Road open (weekends): 4,550

Summer/Tioga Road open (weekdays): 5,170

Fall/Tioga Road open (weekends/holidays): 4,270

These are not the total number of reservations each day, but the projected total number of vehicles with peak-hours reservations each day. This does not include

other types of vehicles (e.g., overnight visitors, employees, vendors). Our projections for how many vehicles will return on day two or three of their reservation and for how many will not show up affect the actual number of reservations available each day. We may adjust the number of reservations available each day if conditions and actual use are different from our projections.

During summer, weekend numbers are lower because more vehicles enter before peak hours begin and more people use the second or third day of their reservation.

If Tioga Road opens before July 1, we will increase the spring numbers.

If the reservation system is based on Yosemite Valley capacity, why is the entire park included?

All areas of Yosemite have been operating at or near capacity for several years. Allowing the same number of vehicles into the park and redirecting them other areas would cause the same parking and traffic issues seen in Yosemite Valley.

How long will the peak-hours+ reservation system be in place?

A reservation is required to drive into or through Yosemite National Park on some or all days from April 13 through October 27, if driving into the park between 5 am and 4 pm as follows:

- April 13–June 30: weekends and holidays (Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays— May 27 and June 19)
- July 1–August 16: seven days per week
- August 17–October 27: weekends and holidays (Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays—September 2 and October 14)

Is the peak-hours+ reservation system permanent?

This is a pilot system designed to allow park visitors to experience Yosemite without excess vehicle traffic and to manage parking demand the upcoming coming busy season. Yosemite National Park is currently evaluating past reservation pilot systems and other strategies to develop a permanent solution in the Yosemite [Visitor Access Management Plan](#).

What is the long-term strategy for reducing congestion and crowding?

Traffic congestion has been a major issue for about six decades, seriously impacting visitors' experience in Yosemite, and is a source of frequent complaints. One of the five goals of the park's 1980 General Management Plan is to "markedly reduce traffic congestion." The Merced River and Tuolumne River Plans (both

finalized in 2014) address congestion and crowding in Yosemite Valley and Tuolumne Meadows, respectively. This year's peak-hours+ reservation system provides both data and a test case as one pathway to a permanent solution for this persistent issue. Long-term implementation of strategies to reduce congestion and crowding will include public and stakeholder input.

Why are reservations needed?

The park has seen increasing impacts to natural and cultural resources, diminished quality of visitor experiences, increased visitor and staff safety concerns, and a heavy strain on the park's facilities and ability to perform daily operations. The NPS believes that managed access and related strategies are needed in high-demand areas where other strategies have not been sufficient to ensure high-quality experiences, visitor safety, and resource protection.

What is managed access?

Managed access is a suite of tools that help pace the timing and volume of visitation into areas to optimize access, ensure quality experiences, and protect resources. Examples of managed access include reservation systems, timed and ticketed entry, campground reservations, and more. Some examples of managed access strategies that have been in place for many years include wilderness and Half Dome permits. Managed access and related strategies are not a standalone solution. This plan will carefully evaluate many different tools and techniques that would be most effective to help Yosemite improve how visitors get to and experience the park's significant resources and features.

Have managed access strategies been used at Yosemite National Park before?

- Reservation systems were enacted in previous years (2020-2022) to accommodate visitor use during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- There are many other examples of managed access strategies that have been in place for many years, including day use permits and a lottery system for access to the Half Dome cables in Yosemite National Park

How can I provide comments about this system?

You may always [contact us](#). The superintendent's office receives all comments about the reservation system.