



Yosemite Family Vacation ★ 4.82 42 Reviews

## Yosemite Family Vacation

6 Days

18 People Max



*These lands have inspired poets, painters, photographers, and conservationists for centuries – how will it inspire you on your Yosemite family vacation?*

Six days of family-friendly fun and activities into one of America's greatest national treasures. Stand at the base of a tumbling 2,425-foot waterfall, a soaring 8,842-foot granite dome, and a 3,000-year-old, 300-foot Giant Sequoia. Hike and explore the largest subalpine meadow in Sierra Nevada. Keep your eyes peeled for wildlife like black bears, bighorn sheep, and foxes. Find out why granite will be your new stone of choice as a rock climber. Discover just how huge a Giant Sequoia really is by standing at the base of one of these forest monsters and looking up skyward. This all-inclusive Yosemite family vacation includes cozy accommodations at kid-approved lodges, complemented with the best in regional cuisine and the tastiest pizza of any National Park.

### Trip Highlights

- Hiking - Mariposa Grove
- Hiking - To Wapama Falls
- Hiking - The Mist Trail to Vernal Falls
- Hiking - Valley Loop Trail
- Hiking - To Upper Yosemite Falls
- Plus ... - Try rock climbing

### Our Active Adventures Assurance

We value loyalty, and appreciate that it goes both ways. So when you book with us we'll make a few assurances to you so you can book with complete confidence, no matter what's happening in your life (or the world).



### COVID-Ready Certified: Safe Travel for our Guests Travelling Overseas

Active Adventures has received the World Travel and Tourism Council's Safe Travels stamp, which guarantees you that we'll follow all ATTA and WTTC health and safety guidelines on all our trips. See how our small group, off-the-beaten-track adventures are perfect to start exploring again.

## Yosemite Family Vacation ~ Itinerary

### DAY 1

#### Pick up in Fresno, hike in Yosemite Valley

Sunday morning pick up in Fresno. Shuttle north into the heart of Yosemite National Park. We'll stretch our legs on the Mirror Lake hike with the mountains all around you. Following a picnic lunch at Yosemite Falls and a short hike, we make our way up to Tunnel View for amazing views of the valley below. Tunnel View is the classic view that Ansel Adams made famous showcasing El Capitan, Half Dome, and Bridalveil Fall. Late afternoon, check into Rush Creek Lodge, your home for the next two nights.

#### **Rush Creek Lodge (Lunch, Dinner)**

**Hiking:** 5 miles (8 kilometers)

### DAY 2

#### Hike Hetch Hetchy, swim in the Tuolumne River

While the full loop around Hetch Hetchy reservoir stretches for nearly 28 miles, today's hike will be about a quarter of that, and every bit as beautiful. On the trail, you'll witness beautiful natural scenery, like the thundering waters of Wapama Falls tumbling down the rocky cliffs. After you've worked up a sweat, you can take a dip in the South Fork of the Tuolumne River – so remember your swimsuit!

#### **Rush Creek Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)**

**Hiking:** 5 miles (8 kilometers)

### DAY 3

#### Hike Mist Trail to Vernal Falls

This morning, we shuttle to the trailhead of the Mist Trail. This hike takes us to the top of Vernal Fall, tackling 1,600 feet of elevation gain that includes an unforgettable stretch of steep stone steps in the midst of a waterfall. When you get to the Vernal Fall footbridge, you'll have a bird's eye view of the 317-foot-high waterfall roaring down below. Continue up to Clarke Point and return on the famed John Muir trail. Later, we'll transfer to Tenaya Lodge, your home for the next three nights. Continue your exploration of this amazing area tonight as you spend dinner and the rest of the evening on your own.

#### **Tenaya Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch)**

**Hiking:** 7 miles (11.2 kilometers)

### DAY 4

#### Try rock climbing (at your level)

Fuel up with a warm, fresh meal before we head out to Half Dome Village, where we'll grab some climbing shoes for a fantastic day of rock climbing and rappelling – no trip to Yosemite would be complete without it! Classes are designed for climbers of all levels, so everyone from beginners to experts will take away a new skill-set. You'll spend the better part of the day learning everything there is to know about rock climbing – from tying knots to rappelling, and everything in between. After a pizza lunch at your climbing site, we'll continue our uphill ascent through the early afternoon. Afterwards explore Yosemite Village before an early dinner and sunset in the valley with colors highlighting the peaks all around you.

**Tenaya Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)**

**Rock Climbing:** 2-3 hours

DAY 5

**Explore Mariposa Grove and Swim in the Merced River**

This morning we make our way to the famous Mariposa Grove to hike under the giant sequoia trees some taller than 300 feet and older than 3000 years old. After a picnic lunch in the grove we head over Merced River to take a refreshing afternoon dip. This evening we celebrate our adventures in Yosemite during our farewell dinner.

**Tenaya Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)**

**Hiking:** 5 miles (8 kilometers)

DAY 6

**Relax at the spa, farewell!**

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the lodge. This morning you can take advantage of some last-minute pool or spa time. Reluctantly we say goodbye to the park and start our way back to Fresno. Hotel and airport drop-offs in the early afternoon.

**No Accommodation (Breakfast)**

## Useful Info

### Where does the trip start?

On the first day of the trip we can either pick you up from the [Homewood Suites by Hilton Fresno Airport](#) at 6:30am or the [Best Western Plus Fresno Inn](#) at 6:45am. You are welcome to book your pre-trip stay at either of these hotels directly or any other hotel in Fresno, though you must make your own way to one of the two pick-up points at the pre-designated times.

### Where does the trip end?

Your trip ends with a drop-off at either the Fresno Airport at 1pm in time for flights below or at a hotel of your choice in Fresno around 1.30pm.

### What flights would you recommend?

**Arrival:** We recommend arriving in Fresno the night before the trip starts. Many guests like to arrive a day or two early to accommodate potential flight delays and/or explore the city prior to your trip start.

**Departure:** Flying out on the last day of the trip, we recommend departing from Fresno any time after 3pm. Earlier flight times will require a separate transfer booked at your own expense.

### Will I have contact with my guides before the trip starts?

Your guides will call your cell phone the night before your trip begins to touch base on the first day's plan. If they don't get through to you, they will leave a voicemail on your cell phone with all the details you need to plan for your first morning.

### What should I bring with me on the first day?

When you speak with your guides the night before your trip, they will give you a detailed description of what to bring with you on Day 1. Typically, this includes a day pack with your rain jacket, sunglasses, hat, camera, etc. Anything you want easy access to during the day should go in your day pack as the rest of your luggage will go in the locked cargo trailer pulled behind the van. Your guides will provide you with a water bottle on the first morning of your trip and will always have water available for refills. There will be snacks available at all times in the van. Your guides will also have bug spray and sunscreen accessible for you to use.

### What are your recommended guide gratuity guidelines?

You will have 2-3 guides on your Austin Adventure (depending on group size). We recommend USD\$20 per day, per guest, per guide. Typically, gratuities are offered by check or cash in local currency on the final morning of the trip and can either be given to each guide individually or to one guide to be equally distributed. Most of our guides these days also accept gratuities via Venmo (please note this app does not work in Canada). All dining, housekeeping and activity tips are included in your trip price.

## How do rooming arrangements work?

Trip prices are based on shared arrangements (typically two guests per room), unless otherwise stated. For solo travelers, we'll pair you with another person of the same gender to share rooms and if there's no one suitable to share with, there's no forced single supplement. However, if you specifically request your own rooms, you can opt to pay the single supplement. Solo travelers who book within 90 days of departure, where there are no other solo travelers willing to share, will be required to pay the single supplement.

For Family Vacation bookings, families consisting of four guests traveling with children aged 17 and under will be automatically assigned one shared room. However, the following alternative rooming allocations are available:

Families consisting of four guests with all children aged 13 and above are welcome to opt for additional rooms as per advertised double occupancy adult rates.

Families consisting of four guests with at least one child aged 12 and under are automatically assigned a shared room. However, families can opt to pay the adult rates for all guests in their family to have an additional room.

The same principles apply for families consisting of more than four guests.

Rooming preferences are subject to availability and must be communicated in writing at time of booking. Automatic assignments as per this policy will be applied in the absence of any specification provided by guests. Any request for additional rooms during trips will be at guests' own expense and subject to rates made available by the accommodation provider at the time. All minors (guests aged 17 and under) must be accompanied by at least one adult.

## What is not included?

Flights to and from trip start/end points

Pre/Post Accommodation

Optional extra activities

Travel insurance

Gratuities for your guides

## General Trip Information

You can find details on recommended flights and fitness, as well as trip start and end in the 'Useful Information' section above.

### Excluded

- Transportation (air and land) to and from start/end points
- Travel insurance
- Alcoholic beverages
- Gratuities to Austin Adventures guides

### Outdoor Experience

Our trips allow you to make the most of the backcountry, whether you're relatively new to hiking or a seasoned trekker. Our highly trained and experienced guides will be at your side, safely guiding you to magnificent places you wouldn't get to on your own. The challenges are there, if you're looking for them. All we ask is that you're energetic and in reasonable shape and we guarantee you'll have an incredible time. You don't need experience kayaking to enjoy paddling on the water and you don't need to be a serious biker to enjoy the rides we do. In fact, we have so many options available you don't need to paddle or ride at all if you'd rather hike or just laze around!

### Itinerary Updates

We update our itineraries regularly, so please check our website for the most up-to-date itineraries and pricing. We make every effort to ensure itineraries are updated as necessary, though changes may occur without prior notice due to unforeseen circumstances

### Accommodation

You'll love the interesting places we've discovered over the years. You'll visit really spectacular and off-the-beaten track locations and stay in comfortable bed and breakfasts, lodges, apartments and hotels for the most part. Keep in mind the most remote locations have limited accommodation options, but 5-star scenery!

### Included

- Our own highly experienced guides, with you from start to finish
- Industry-leading Guest-to-Guide ratio (averaging 6:1)
- Your own 'Travel Wallet', an online space with everything required for your trip
- Our knowledgeable Customer Service Team to answer your queries - just a phone call, email or chat away
- Customer Service pre-trip phone calls to ensure you're 'trip ready'
- All accommodations for the duration of your trip
- All meals except where indicated in the itinerary
- Unlimited snacks to keep you fueled
- Special 'Wow!' moments you'll never forget
- All activities outlined in the itinerary
- All necessary equipment (well-maintained and safe) for activities
- All gratuities for hotels, restaurants, and activities
- All park and other entry fees
- Transportation in our air-conditioned vans - safe, clean, modern, and comfortable!