

Yosemite & California's National Parks

AUGUST 26-SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

Learn Why Yosemite Became America's First Protected Public Land

Spend two days exploring the splendor of Yosemite National Park, one of America's greatest natural wonders. With guided tours of the valley and the high Sierra, this is our most extensive visit ever to Yosemite. The fun and amazement continue in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, home to the largest trees on earth. Wrap around to the Eastern Sierra Nevada for unforgettable visits to the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area and Death Valley National Park!

DAY 1: WELCOME TO CALIFORNIA!

Arrive into the Bay Area for dinner and an overnight stay. *D*

DAY 2: PINNACLES NATIONAL PARK

Start your National Parks journey in nearby Pinnacles National Park. Be on the lookout for a California Condor! Once an endangered species these magnificent birds are frequently seen, Pinnacles Park is the only national park that is a release site for captive-bred California Condors. Continue east into the Sierra Nevada and check in for a three-night stay at Yosemite View Lodge on the banks of the Merced River. *B, D*

DAY 3: YOSEMITE VALLEY

Explore the incomparable beauty of Yosemite Valley aboard an open-air tram and discover views of waterfalls, deep valleys, and rock formations. With such spectacular scenery—it's easy to grasp why Yosemite is one of the nation's most photographed parks! Enjoy leisure time in what John Muir called "Nature's Greatest Cathedral." *B, D*

DAY 4: GLACIER POINT

Ascend 3,500 feet on a guided tram tour into the high Sierra for the most spectacular scenery Yosemite has to offer. Take in 360-degree views of the valley floor below and marvel at the top-down views of Half Dome, El Capitan, and Nevada Falls. Spend time at the top, exploring the paths that



Pinnacles National Park

lead from one breathtaking view to next. After the tour, enjoy an afternoon at leisure in the park. **B, D**

DAY 5: SUGAR PINE RAILROAD

Enjoy a final look at the beauty of Yosemite as you travel the scenic Wawona Road into Sierra National Forest. The sounds and scenes from the era of steam powered railroad logging come to life aboard the Yosemite Mountain Sugar Pine Railroad. After a delicious lunch, continue to Wuksachi Lodge, deep in the heart of a lodgepole pine grove in Sequoia National Park, for a 2-night stay. **B, L**

DAY 6: SEQUOIA/KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARK

It's time to explore Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks with a guide from the Sequoia Field Institute. These parks are home to giants: immense mountains, deep canyons, and huge trees. Behold the largest tree in the world, General Sherman, more massive than 10 blue whales combined! Visit General Grant, designated as the nation's Christmas Tree by Calvin Coolidge in 1929. After a day among giants, continue to Bakersfield for an overnight stay. **B, L**

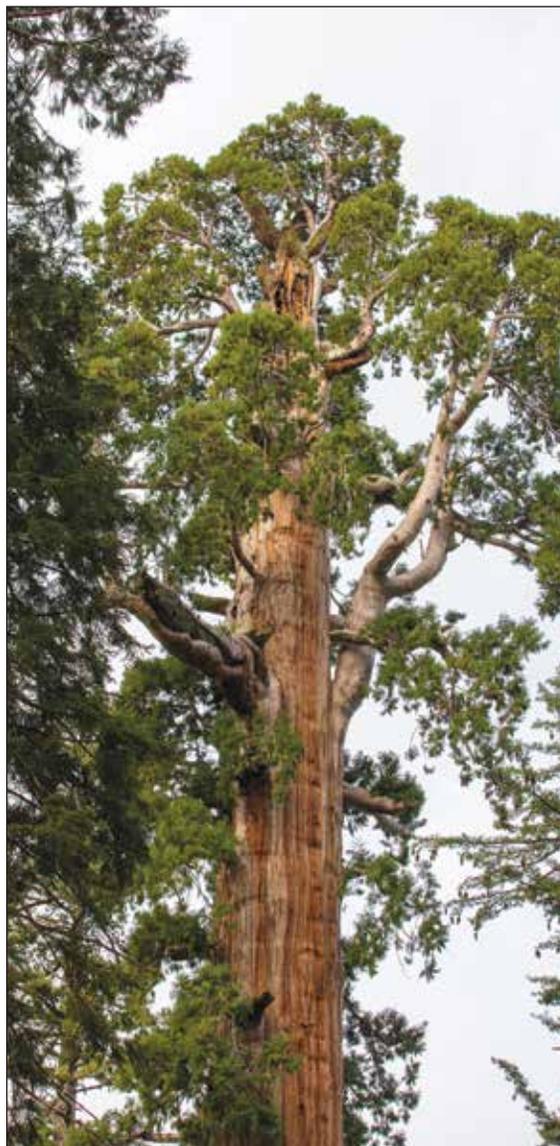
DAY 7: ALABAMA HILLS

Travel to one of California's best kept secrets, the town of Lone Pine, where an other-worldly red rock landscape sits beneath the tallest peak in the contiguous U.S. — Mount Whitney. A scenic drive takes you into Death Valley National Park and an overnight stay at The Ranch Resort at Death Valley. **B, D**

DAY 8: DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

With a park expert, explore the locations that make Death Valley perhaps our most misunderstood National Park. Step out onto the salt flats of Badwater Basin — the lowest elevation on the continent — and marvel at the landscape of the Mojave Desert from Zabriskie Point. Overnight in Las Vegas. **B, D**

DAY 9: RETURN HOME **B** ✨



Sequoia National Park

Alabama Hills National Scenic Area



TOUR DETAILS

9 Days • 16 Meals

Aug 26-Sep 2, 2026

Price Per Person:

DB \$4,039, TP/QD \$3,630, SG \$5,080

Depart/Return:



St. Louis

Kansas City

Springfield

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 full days in Yosemite National Park
- Guided tour of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
- Pinnacles National Park
- Alabama Hills National Scenic Area
- Guided tour of Death Valley National Park

ACCOMMODATIONS

Night 1: Bay Area Hotel (TBD)

Nights 2-4: Yosemite View Lodge, El Portal, CA

Nights 5-6: Wuksachi Lodge, Sequoia National Park

Night 7: The Ranch at Death Valley

Night 8: Doubletree, Las Vegas Airport

Did you know:

Sequoia trees are interconnected by their roots, forming a resilient, communal forest network!

// Sunrise destinations, guides, and planning are all excellent! //

—Carloyn B.
2025 TRAVELER